

COMPOUNDS THAT MODULATE PPAR ACTIVITY AND METHODS OF  
PREPARATION

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

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This Utility Application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/463,641 filed April 17, 2003.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention relates to compounds and pharmaceutical formulations that can be used to treat conditions mediated by nuclear hormone receptors, more specifically, to compounds and pharmaceutical formulations that modulate Peroxisome Proliferator Activation Receptor, ("PPAR") activity.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, and diabetes are well recognized risk factors in the onset of atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease. Hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipidemia are characterized by excessively high levels of blood cholesterol and lipids. The blood cholesterol pool is generally dependent on dietary uptake of cholesterol from the intestine and biosynthesis of cholesterol throughout the body, especially the liver. The majority of cholesterol in plasma is carried on apolipoprotein B-containing lipoproteins, such as low-density lipoproteins (LDL) and very-low-density lipoproteins (VLDL). The risk of coronary artery disease in man increases when LDL and VLDL levels increase. Conversely, high levels of cholesterol carried in high-density lipoproteins (HDL) is protective against coronary artery disease (Am. J. Med., 1977; 62:707-714).

The statins represent perhaps the most important class of lipid-lowering drugs. These compounds inhibit HMG-CoA reductase which is implicated in the rate-limiting step in cellular cholesterol biosynthesis. Representative statins include atorvastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin, and simvastatin. The effectiveness of these compounds depends

on LDL receptor regulation. Other important antilipidemia drugs include fibrates such as gemfibrozil and clofibrate, bile acid sequestrants such as cholestyramine and colestipol, probucol, and nicotinic acid analogs.

To date, a number of oral antidiabetic agents have been developed. The most  
5 commonly used hypoglycemic drugs are the sulfonylureas. Sulfonylureas are generally used to stimulate insulin. The biguanide metformin is generally used to improve insulin sensitivity and to decrease hepatic glucose output. Acarbose is used to limit postprandial hyperglycemia. Thiazolidine 2,4 diones are used to enhance insulin action without increasing insulin secretion.

10        Peroxisome Proliferator Activation Receptors (PPAR) are implicated in a number of biological processes and disease states including hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, and diabetes. PPARs are members of the nuclear receptor superfamily of transcription factors that includes steroid, thyroid, and vitamin D receptors. They play a role in controlling expression of proteins that regulate lipid metabolism. Furthermore, the  
15 PPARs are activated by fatty acids and fatty acid metabolites. There are three PPAR subtypes PPAR  $\alpha$ , PPAR  $\beta$  (also referred to as PPAR  $\delta$ ), and PPAR  $\gamma$ . Each receptor shows a different pattern of tissue expression, and differences in activation by structurally diverse compounds. PPAR  $\gamma$ , for instance, is expressed most abundantly in adipose tissue and at lower levels in skeletal muscle, heart, liver, intestine, kidney, vascular endothelial  
20 and smooth muscle cells as well as macrophages. PPAR receptors are associated with regulation of insulin sensitivity and blood glucose levels, macrophage differentiation, inflammatory response, and cell differentiation. Accordingly, PPARs have been associated with obesity, diabetes, carcinogenesis, hyperplasia, atherosclerosis, hyperlipidemia, and hypercholesterolemia.

25        In addition, PPAR $\alpha$  agonists lower plasma triglycerides and LDL cholesterol and are therefore useful in treating hypertriglyceridemia, hyperlipidemia and obesity. PPAR  $\gamma$  is associated with the development of non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM), hypertension, coronary artery disease, hyperlipidemia and certain malignancies. Finally, activation of PPAR  $\beta$  has been demonstrated to increase HDL levels. (Leibowitz,  
30 WO97/28149, Aug. 1997.) More recently, a PPAR  $\beta$  selective agonist was reported to have shown a dose-related increase in serum HDL-C and decrease in LDL-C and VLDL-

TG in insulin-resistant middle aged rhesus monkeys. (W. R. Oliver et al., PNAS, v. 98, pp. 5306-5311, 2001)

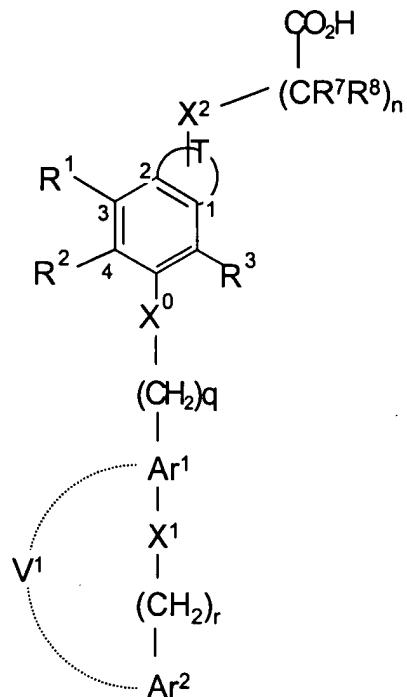
Antilipidemic and antidiabetic agents are still considered to have non-uniform effectiveness. The effectiveness of antidiabetic and antilipidemic therapies is limited, in part because of poor patient compliance due to unacceptable side effects. These side effects include diarrhea and gastrointestinal discomfort, and in the case of antidiabetics, edema, hypoglycemia and hepatotoxicity. Furthermore, each type of drug does not work equally well in all patients.

For the reasons set forth above, there is a need for novel antilipidemic and antidiabetic agents that can be used alone or in combination. Furthermore, activation of PPAR $\beta$  alone or in combination with the simultaneous activation of PPAR  $\alpha$  and/or PPAR  $\gamma$  may be desirable in formulating a treatment for hyperlipidemia in which HDL is increased and LDL lowered.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides compounds capable of modulating PPAR activity. More specifically, the present invention provides a compound having a Formula (I),

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**Formula I**

10 a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein:

$X^0$  and  $X^1$  are each independently absent, O, S,  $\text{NR}^4$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}$ , or  $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$ ;  $\text{Ar}^1$  and  $\text{Ar}^2$  are each independently absent or unsubstituted or substituted aryl

or heteroaryl, is absent; or when present, is a saturated or unsaturated

15 hydrocarbon chain which is substituted or unsubstituted, wherein said chain has from 1 to

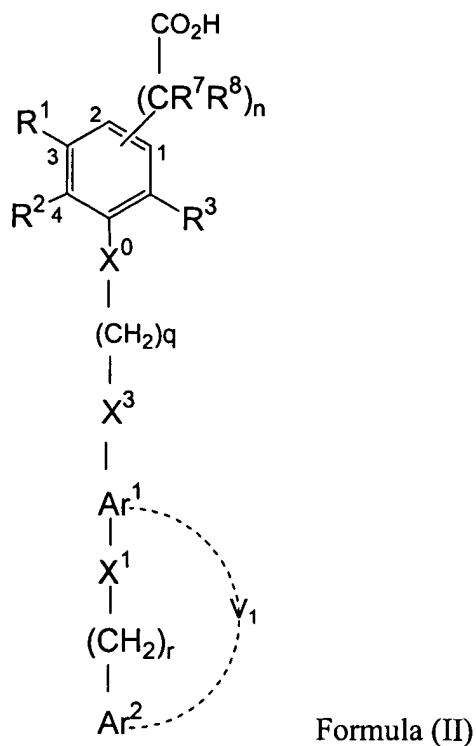
4 atoms so that  $\text{Ar}^1$ ,  $\text{X}^1$ ,  $(\text{CH}_2)_r$  and  $\text{Ar}^2$ , together form a five to eight membered ring; T is a saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon chain or hydrocarbon-heteroatom chain having from 3 to 6 atoms wherein the carbon atom of position 1 is connected to the carbon atom of position 2 to form a five to eight member

CO<sub>2</sub>H  
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5 ring wherein the  $\text{X}^2 - (\text{CR}^7\text{R}^8)_n$  is attached to a substitutionally available position of said ring;  $\text{X}^2$  is absent, O, S, or NR<sup>4</sup>; R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and R<sup>3</sup> are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Alkyl, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Aryl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>OR<sup>4</sup>, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, COR<sup>4</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, or -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are joined together to form a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated 10 or unsaturated cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring; R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, acyl, SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl or aryl; R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl aryl or SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring having 0 to 3 heteroatoms; R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are independently H, lower alkyl, halo, or R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> taken together form a 3-6 membered hydrocarbon ring, optionally 15 containing a heteroatom;

m is an integer from 0 to 5; n is an integer from 0 to 5; and p is an integer from 0 to 2.

q is an integer from 0 to 10; and r is an integer from 0 to 10.

The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula II:



a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein:

5     $X^3$  is O, C=O, S, CHOR<sup>11</sup>, absent or NR<sup>4</sup>; R<sup>11</sup> is lower alkyl, aryl, acyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl- or -SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, absent or NR<sup>4</sup>; and R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, X<sup>0</sup>, X<sup>1</sup>, an X<sup>2</sup>, Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>,

, n, r and q are as defined above.

The present invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition containing a compound of Formula I or Formula II as set forth above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or vehicle.

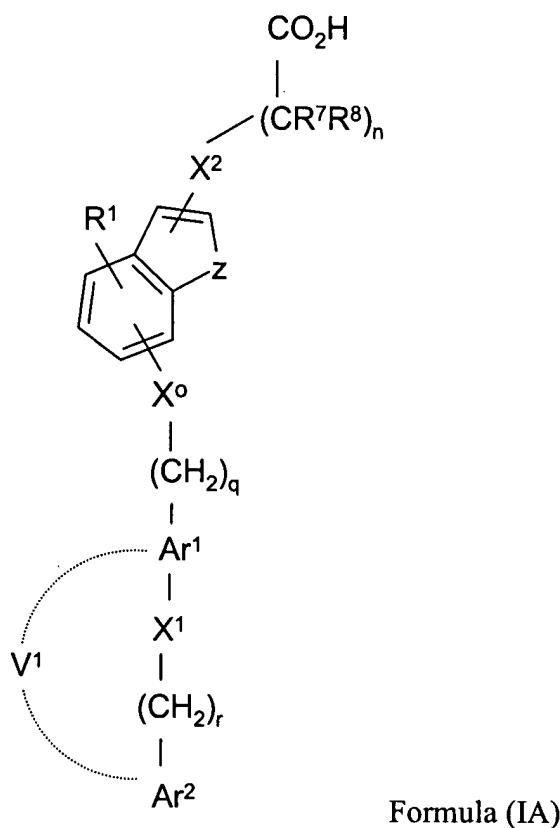
10    acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or vehicle.

Further, the present invention provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, hyperglycemia, obesity, atherosclerosis, hyperlipidemia, hypercholesterolemia, hypertryglyceridemia, 15 hyperinsulinemia, and various glucose related disorders in a mammal by administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of

Formula I or Formula II as set forth above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

Further, the present invention provides *inter alia* the following compounds: [6-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-chroman-2-yl]-acetic acid; {6-[4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[4-(2,5-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfany]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Further, the present invention provides a compound having a formula (IA),



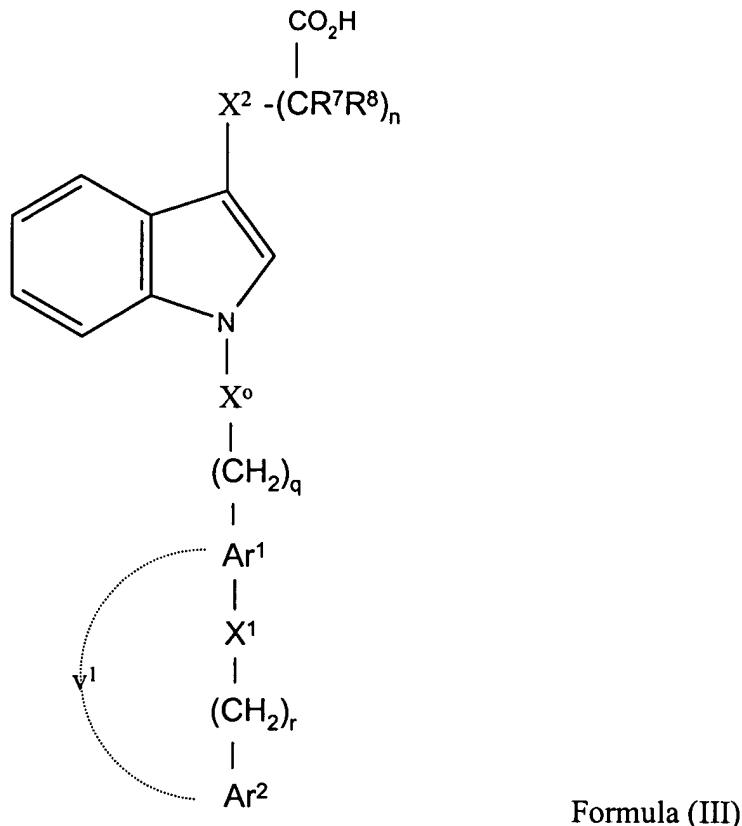
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide, or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein: Z=S, O or NR<sup>4</sup>, and Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>,

v<sup>1</sup>

, X<sup>0</sup>, X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, n, q and r are as defined for Formula I above.

Further, the present invention provides *inter alia* the following compounds: {6-[4-  
5 (4-Trifluoromethyl-benzylxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-  
Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-  
[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzylxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-  
(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;  
{6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; and  
10 pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Further, the present invention provides a compound having a Formula III,

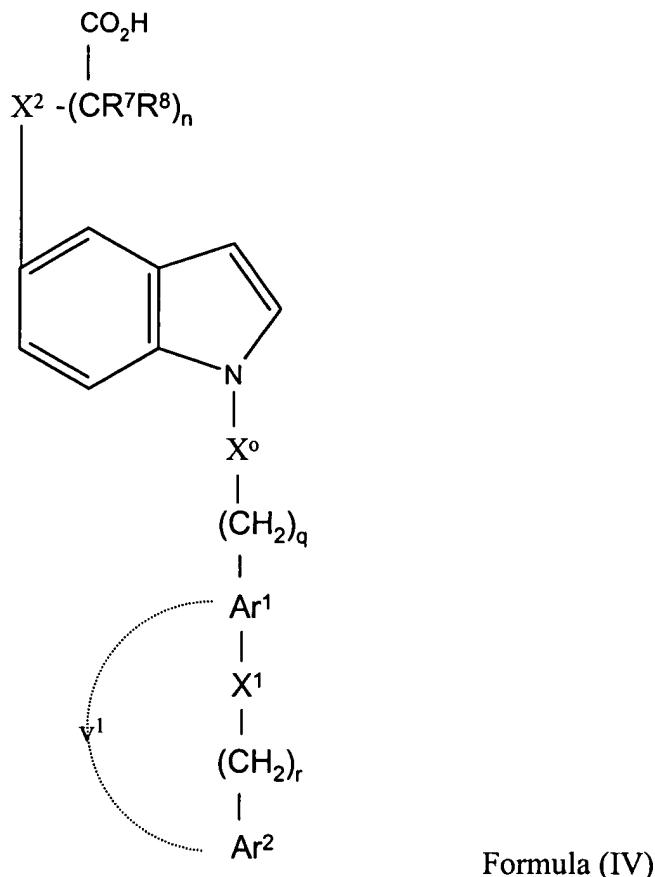


a pharmaceutically salt, ester amide or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable

salt of the prodrug wherein: Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, ..., X<sup>0</sup>, X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, n q and r are as defined above for Formula I.

Further, the present invention provides *inter alia* the following compounds: 3-{1-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-3-yl}-propionic acid; 3-{1-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-3-yl}-propionic acid; 3-[1-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-1H-indol-3-yl]-propionic acid; {1-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-3-yl}-acetic acid, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

10 Further, the present invention provides a compound having a Formula IV,



a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide, or prodrug thereof, or a

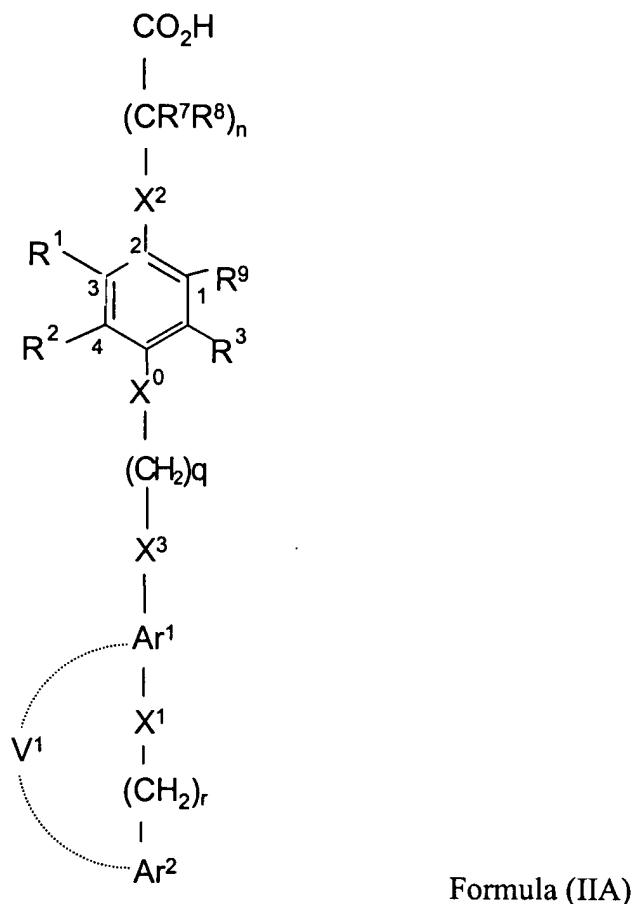
pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein: Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, ..., X<sup>0</sup>, X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, n, q and r are as defined above for Formula I.

Further still, the present invention provides *inter alia* the following compounds:

5 [1-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-1H-indol-5-yloxy]-acetic acid, [1-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-1H-indol-4-yloxy]-acetic acid; [6-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-chroman-2-yl]-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfany]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

10 and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Yet further, the present invention provides a compound having a Formula IIA,



a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, amide, ester or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein:  $X^1$  and  $X^3$  are each independently O, C=O, S, CHOR<sup>11</sup>, absent or NR<sup>4</sup>; R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl,  
 5 lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Alkyl, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Aryl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>OR<sup>4</sup>, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -COR<sup>4</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, or -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are joined together to form a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring; R<sup>11</sup> is lower alkyl, aryl, acyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl- or -SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, absent or NR<sup>4</sup>; and R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>o</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, m, n, p,  
 10 q and r are as defined above for Formula I.

Further, the invention provides *inter alia* the following compounds:

benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

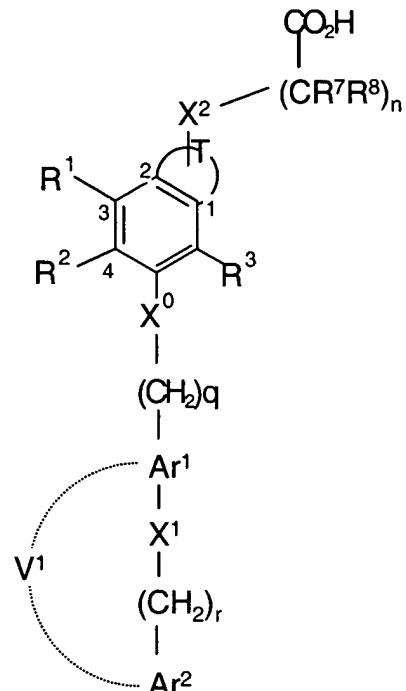
5 {5-Methoxy-6-[5-(4-methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid; {5-Methoxy-6-[5-(3-methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-5-methoxy-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-5-methoxy-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

10 {7-[5-(4-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid; {7-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid; {7-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid; {7-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid; {4-[5-(4-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-

15 phenoxy}-acetic acid; {4-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid; {4-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid; {4-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a compound having a Formula (I),

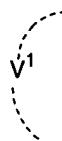


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**Formula I**

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein: X<sup>0</sup> and X<sup>1</sup> are each independently absent, O, S, NR<sup>4</sup>, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH=CH-, or —C≡C—; Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are each independently absent or

unsubstituted or substituted aryl or heteroaryl,



is absent; or when present,



is a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon chain which is substituted or

V<sup>1</sup>

unsubstituted, wherein said chain has from 1 to 4 atoms so that , Ar<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>1</sup>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> and Ar<sup>2</sup>, together form a five to eight membered ring; T is a saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon chain or hydrocarbon-heteroatom chain having from 3 to 6 atoms wherein the carbon atom of position 1 is connected to the carbon atom



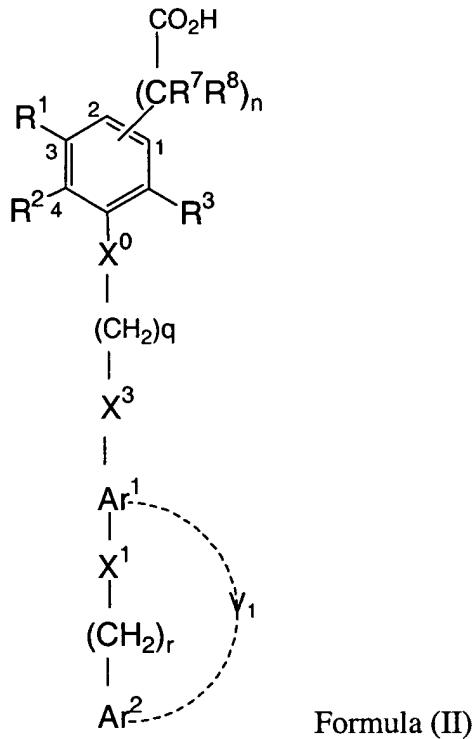
5 of position 2 to form a five to eight member ring wherein the  $\text{X}^2 - (\text{CR}^7\text{R}^8)_n$  is attached to a substitutionally available position of said ring; X<sup>2</sup> is absent, O, S, or NR<sup>4</sup>; R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and R<sup>3</sup> are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Alkyl, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Aryl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>OR<sup>4</sup>, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, COR<sup>4</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, or -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are joined together to form a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring; R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, acyl, SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl or aryl; R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl aryl or SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring having 0 to 3 heteroatoms; R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are independently H, lower alkyl, halo, or R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> taken together form a 3-6 membered hydrocarbon ring, optionally containing a heteroatom;

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m is an integer from 0 to 5; n is an integer from 0 to 5; p is an integer from 0 to 2; q is an integer from 0 to 10; and r is an integer from 0 to 10.

The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula II:



a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, amide, ester or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein  $X^3$  is O, C=O, S, CHOR<sup>11</sup>, where R<sup>11</sup> is lower alkyl, aryl, acyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, absent or NR<sup>4</sup>; and R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>,

$X^0$ ,  $X^1$ ,  $X^2$ , Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, ..., n, r and q are as defined above for Formula I.

The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein  $X^0$  is S or O;  $X^1$  is absent O or S; Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are each independently absent, or unsubstituted or substituted aryl or

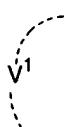
heteroaryl; ... is absent; q is 1; and r is 0 or 1. The present invention further provides the compound, pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein T is substituted with 1 or more substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower

alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy,  $-\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_{0-2}\text{CF}_3$ , halogen, nitro, cyano,  $=\text{O}$ ,  $=\text{S}$ ,  $-\text{OH}$ ,  $-\text{SH}$ ,  $-\text{CF}_3$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkyl,  $-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{NHC}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkyl,  $-\text{CONR}'\text{R}''$ , or  $-\text{N}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{alkyl})_2$ ; and  $\text{R}'$  and  $\text{R}''$  are independently alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring.

5       The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein  $\text{X}^0$  is S or O;  $\text{X}^1$  is O or absent; and  $\text{Ar}^1$  and  $\text{Ar}^2$  are each independently unsubstituted or substituted aryl or heteroaryl.

10      The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein T is  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CO-O-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-O-CO-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{HC=CH-HC=CH-}$ ,  $-\text{N=CH-HC=CH-}$ ,  $-\text{HC=N-CH=CH-}$ ,  $-\text{HC=CH-N=CH-}$ ,  $-\text{HC=CH-HC=N-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-O-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-HC=CH-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{-NH-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{COCH=CH-O-}$ ,  $-\text{O-CH=CH-CO-}$ ,  $-\text{O-CH=CH-}$ ,  $-\text{CH=CH-O-}$ ,  $-\text{O-CH}_2\text{-CH=CH-}$ ,  $-\text{CH=CH-CH}_2\text{-O-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CO-NR}^4$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CO-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-NR}^4\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-NR}^4\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH=CH-NR}^4\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{NR}^4\text{-CH=CH-}$ ,  $-\text{CH=CH-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-NR}^4\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{NR}^4\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{O-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{O-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-O-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-O-}$ ,  $-\text{O-CH(CH}_3\text{)-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH(CH}_3\text{)-O-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-NR}^4\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{NR}^4\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CO-NR}^4\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{NR}^4\text{-CO-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{O- NR}^4\text{-CO-}$ ,  $-\text{CO- NR}^4\text{-O-}$ ,  $-\text{O-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-O-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-NR}^4\text{-CO-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CO-}$ ,  $-\text{CO-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{NR}^4\text{-CO-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CO-NR}^4\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CO-}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-CO-CH}_2\text{-}$ ,  $-\text{CO-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-S-C=C-..}$ ,  $-\text{C=C-S-}$ ,  $-\text{S-C-C-}$ ,  $-\text{C-C-S-}$ ,  $-\text{S-C-C-C-}$ ,  $-\text{C-C-C-S-}$ ,  $-\text{C=C-C-S-}$ ,  $-\text{S-C=C-C-}$ , or  $-\text{S-C-C=C-}$ .

25      The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein  $\text{X}^0$  is S;  $\text{X}^1$  is absent;  $\text{Ar}^1$  is substituted phenyl;

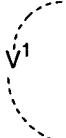
  
Ar<sup>2</sup> is phenyl; ..... is absent; q is 1; and r is 0 or 1.

The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein q is 1.

5 The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein Ar<sup>1</sup> is substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

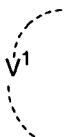
10 The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein Ar<sup>2</sup> is 4-trifluoromethylphenyl.

15 The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or

the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein  is absent.

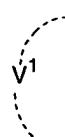
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The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or

the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein  is (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub> and t is an integer from 1 to 4.

20

The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug

thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein  is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0-2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro,

cyano, =O, =S, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OCF<sub>3</sub>, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -NHC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, -CONR'R'', or -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub> where R' and R'' are independently alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring.

5       The present invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound having a Formula I or a Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or vehicle.

10      The present invention further provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of 15 the prodrug.

15      The present invention further provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling obesity in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

20      The present invention further provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling hyperglycemia in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

25      The present invention further provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling hyperlipidemia in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

The present invention further provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling hypercholesterolemia in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

5 The present invention further provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling atherosclerosis in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

10 The present invention further provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling hypertriglyceridemia in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

15 The present invention further provides a method of treating, preventing or controlling hyperinsulinemia in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

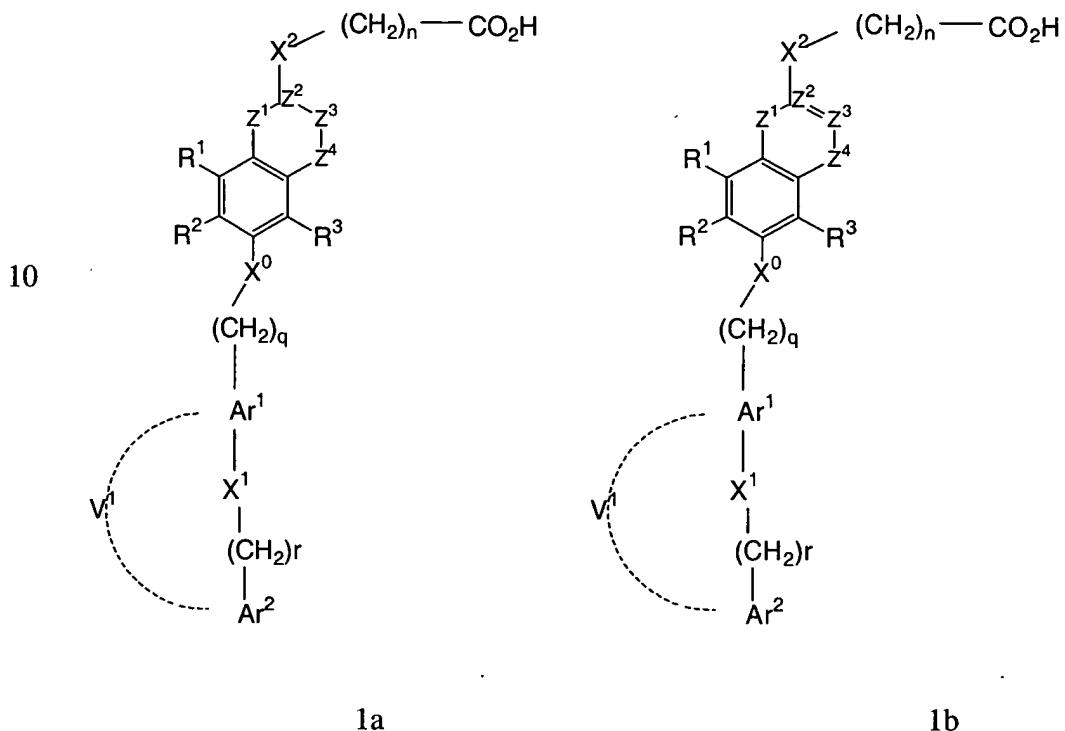
20 The present invention further provides a method of treating a patient exhibiting glucose disorders associated with circulating glucocorticoids, growth hormone, catecholamines, glucagon, or parathyroid hormone, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or Formula II as described above, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug.

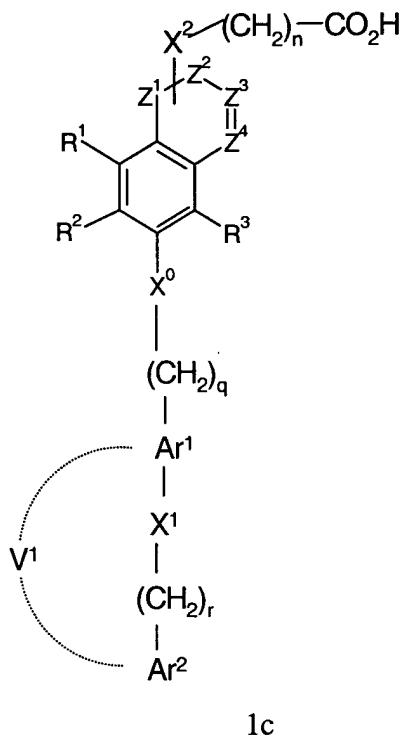
25 The present invention further provides a compound of Formula II as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein X<sup>3</sup> is NR<sup>4</sup> or C=O.

30 The present invention further provides the compound of Formula II as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the

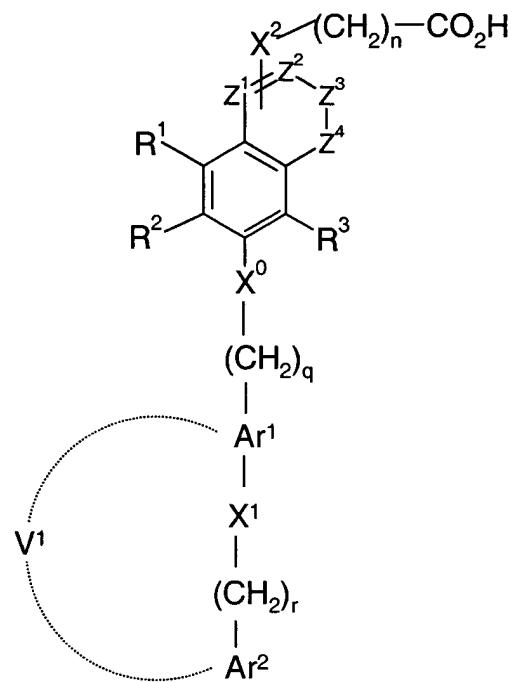
pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein Ar<sup>2</sup> is chloro-phenyl, dichloro-phenyl-, trichlorophenyl, fluoro-phenyl-, difluorophenyl, trifluorophenyl, trifluoromethyl-phenyl, or fluoro-trifluoromethyl-phenyl-; and wherein Ar<sup>1</sup> is absent.

The present invention further provides a compound having Formula 1a, Formula  
5 1b, Formula 1c, Formula 1d, Formula 1e, Formula 1f, Formula 1g, or Formula 1h, the  
pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically  
acceptable salt of the prodrug:

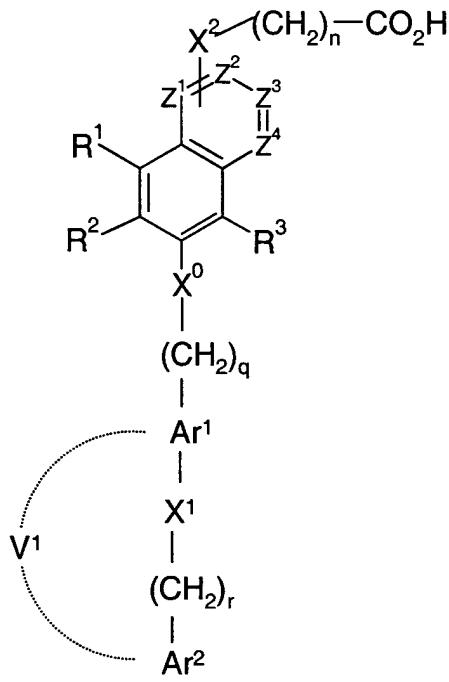




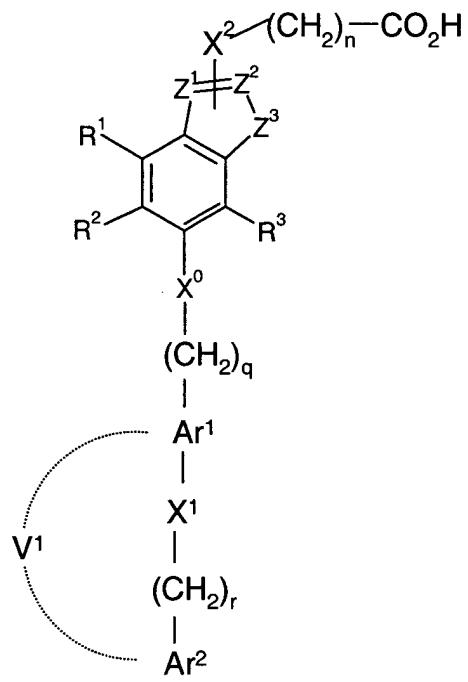
1c



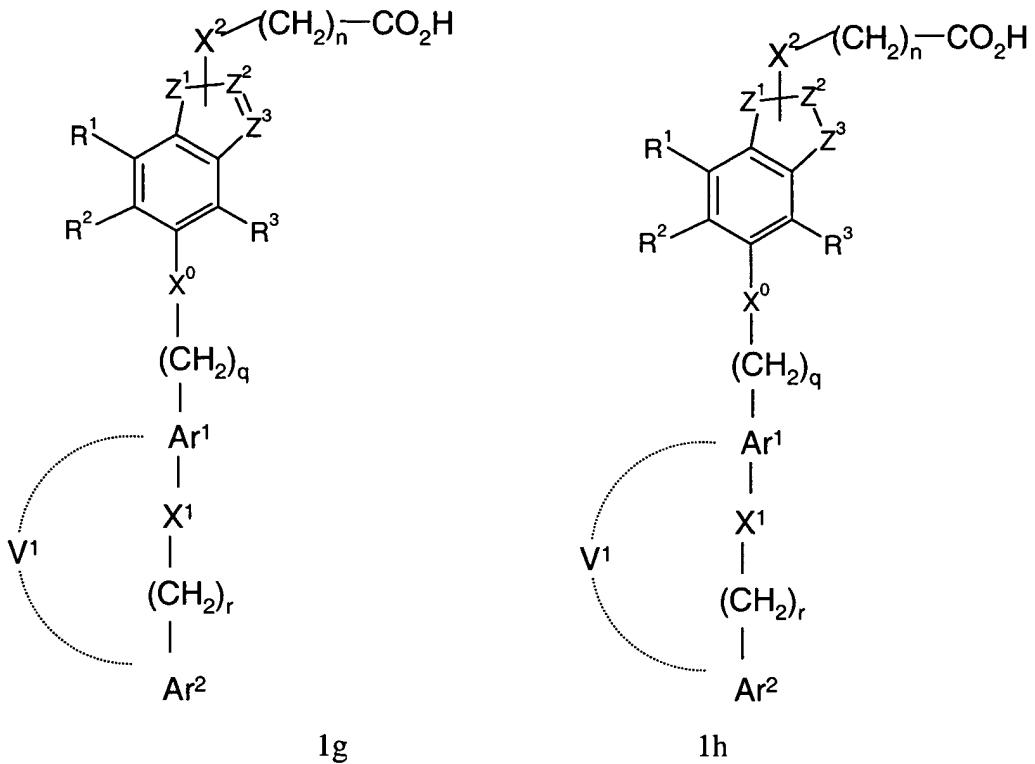
1d



1e



1f

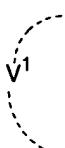


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wherein X<sup>0</sup> is O or S; X<sup>2</sup> is absent, O, S, or NR<sup>4</sup>; R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and R<sup>3</sup> are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Alkyl, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Aryl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>OR<sup>4</sup>, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, COR<sup>4</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, or -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are joined together to form a substituted or

- 10 unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring; R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, acyl, SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl or aryl; R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl or, SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring having 0 to 3 heteroatoms; m is an integer from 0 to 5; n is an integer from 0 to 5; p is an integer from 0 to 2; Z<sup>1</sup>, Z<sup>2</sup>, Z<sup>3</sup>, and Z<sup>4</sup> are independently O, S, CR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, NR<sup>11</sup>, or N; R<sup>11</sup> is lower alkyl, acyl, aryl, -SO<sub>2</sub>alkyl, or -SO<sub>2</sub>Ar, and wherein Z<sup>1</sup>, Z<sup>2</sup>, Z<sup>3</sup>, and Z<sup>4</sup> are bonded to a sufficient number of hydrogen atoms or substituents to complete the valency of each atom with the proviso that Z<sup>1</sup>, Z<sup>2</sup>, Z<sup>3</sup>, and Z<sup>4</sup> are not all heteroatoms and that not more than two adjacent atoms in Z<sup>1</sup>, Z<sup>2</sup>, Z<sup>3</sup>, and Z<sup>4</sup> are

heteroatoms and that in Formulae 1b, 1c, 1d, 1f, and 1g, Z<sup>1</sup>, Z<sup>2</sup>, Z<sup>3</sup>, and Z<sup>4</sup> are not all

carbon atoms; and X<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, , and r and q are as defined above for Formula I.

The present invention further provides a compound of Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the  
5 pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and R<sup>3</sup> are independently hydrogen, alkyl, or alkoxy.

The present invention further provides a compound of Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are hydrogen; and R<sup>2</sup>  
10 is alkyl or alkoxy.

The present invention further provides a compound of Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are hydrogen; and R<sup>2</sup> is alkoxy.

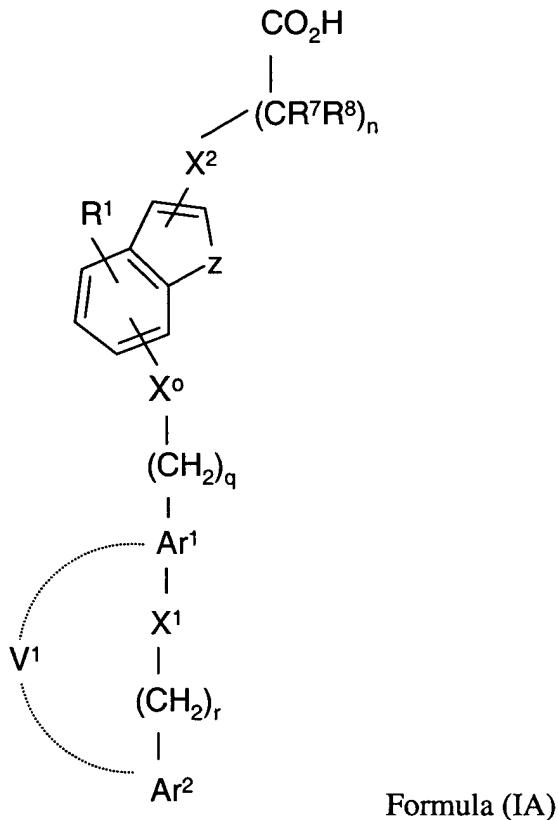
15 The present invention further provides a compound of Formula I as described above, the pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, n-propyl, t-butyl, n-butyl, or isobutyl; and R<sup>2</sup> is methyoxy, ethoxy, isopropoxy, n-propoxy, t-butoxy, n-butoxy, or isobutoxy.

20 The present invention further provides *inter alia* the following compounds: {6-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-chroman-2-yl]-acetic acid; {6-[4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[4-(2,5-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfany]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-

25

(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

The present invention further provides a compound having a formula (IA),



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a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide, or prodrug thereof ,or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein Z=S, O or NR<sup>4</sup>, and Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>,

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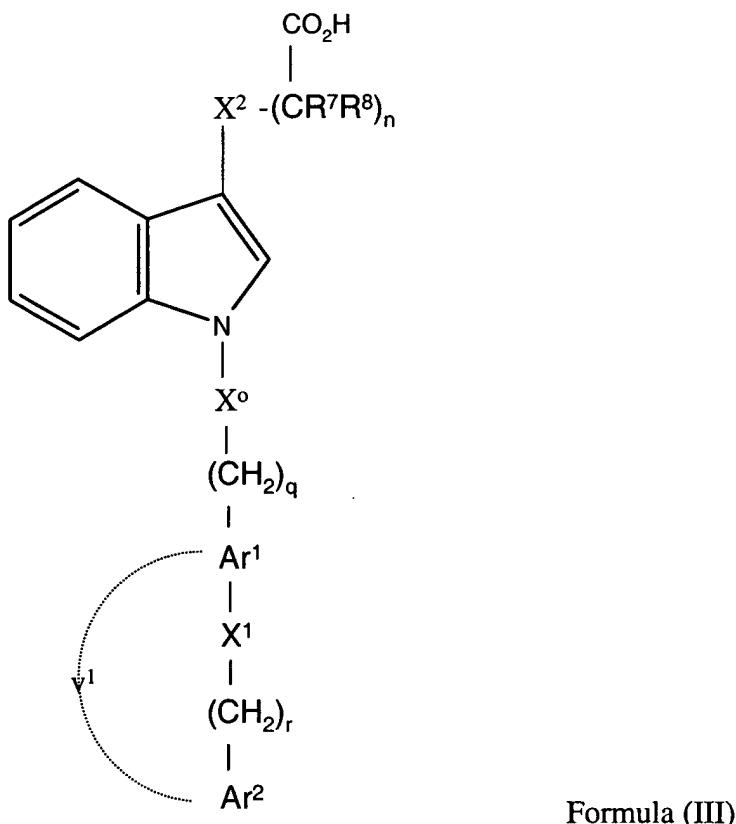
, X<sup>0</sup>, X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, n, q and r are as defined above for Formula I. The present invention further provides a compound having a formula IA, as described above,

10 the pharmaceutically acceptable amide ester or prodrug thereof, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein X<sup>0</sup> is oxygen; X<sup>1</sup> is absent or O; Ar<sup>1</sup> is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl; Ar<sup>2</sup> is a substituted phenyl;

$\checkmark^1$  is absent;  $X^2$  is absent; n is an integer from 0 to 5; q is an integer from 0 to 3; and r is an integer from 0 to 3.

The present invention further provides *inter alia* the following compounds: {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

10 The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula III,

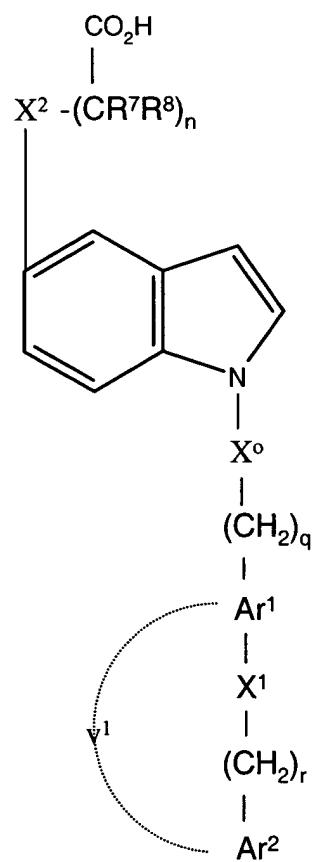


a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein

$\text{Ar}^1, \text{Ar}^2, \dots, \text{X}^0, \text{X}^1, \text{X}^2, \text{R}^7, \text{R}^8, n, q$  and  $r$  are as defined above for Formula I.

The present invention further provides *inter alia* the following compounds: 3-[1-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-3-yl]-propionic acid; 3-[1-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-3-yl]-propionic acid; 3-[1-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-1H-indol-3-yl]-propionic acid; {1-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-3-yl}-acetic acid, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5 The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula IV,



Formula (IV)

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide, or prodrug thereof, or a

pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>0</sup>, X<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, n, q and r are as defined above for Formula I.

The present invention also provides a compound having a Formula IV as  
5 described above, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, amide, ester or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein X<sup>0</sup> is absent; X<sup>1</sup> is absent or O; Ar<sup>1</sup> is a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl; Ar<sup>2</sup> is 4-trifluoromethyl phenyl;

is absent; X<sup>2</sup> is absent, 0, or S; n is an integer from 0 to 5; q is an integer from 0 to 3; and r is an integer from 0 to 3.

10 The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula IV as described above, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, amide, ester or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein X<sup>0</sup> is absent; X<sup>1</sup> is absent or O; Ar<sup>1</sup> is a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl; Ar<sup>2</sup> is 4-trifluoromethyl phenyl;

is absent; X<sup>2</sup> is absent, 0, or S; n is an integer from 0 to 5;

15 q is an integer from 0 to 3; and r is an integer from 0 to 3.

The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula IV as described above, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, amide, ester, prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein X<sup>0</sup> and X<sup>1</sup> are absent; Ar<sup>1</sup> is a

substituted or unsubstituted phenyl; Ar<sup>2</sup> is 4-trifluoromethylphenyl; is

20 absent; X<sup>2</sup> is absent, 0 or S; n is an integer from 0 to 5; q is an integer from 0 to 3; and

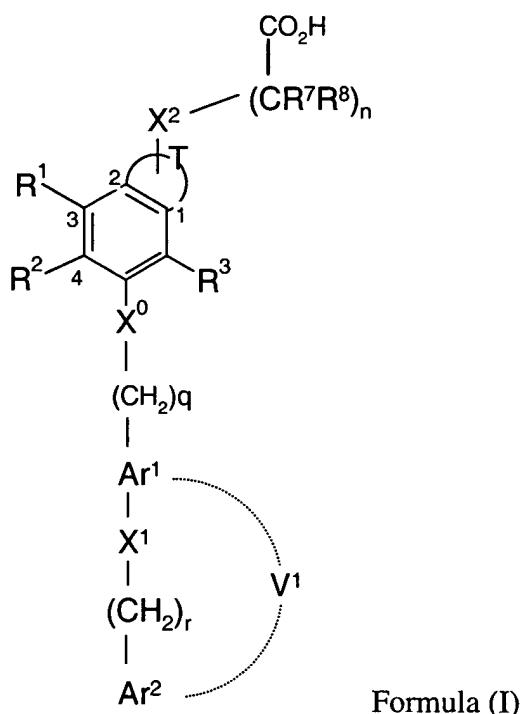
r is an integer from 0 to 3.

The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula IV, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein Ar<sup>2</sup> is trifluoromethyl-phenyl.

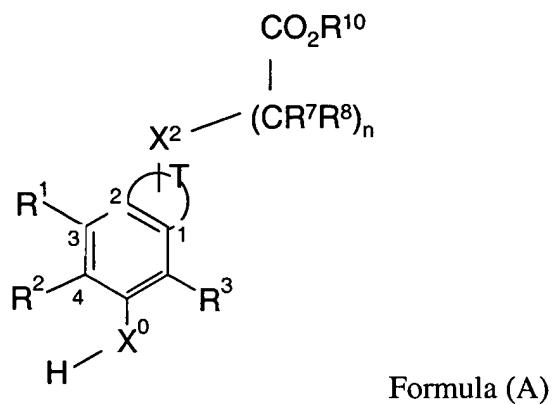
5        The present invention further provides *inter alia* the following compounds: [1-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-1H-indol-5-yloxy]-acetic acid, [1-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-1H-indol-4-yloxy]-acetic acid; [6-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-chroman-2-yl]-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfany]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid; [1-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-1H-indol-5-yloxy]-acetic acid, [1-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl)-1H-indol-4-yloxy]-acetic acid; [6-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-chroman-2-yl]-acetic acid; {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfany]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid; {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-4-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

10      and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

15      The present invention further provides a method of making a compound having the Formula (I):

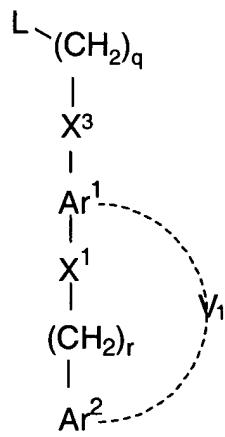


comprising reacting a compound of Formula A,



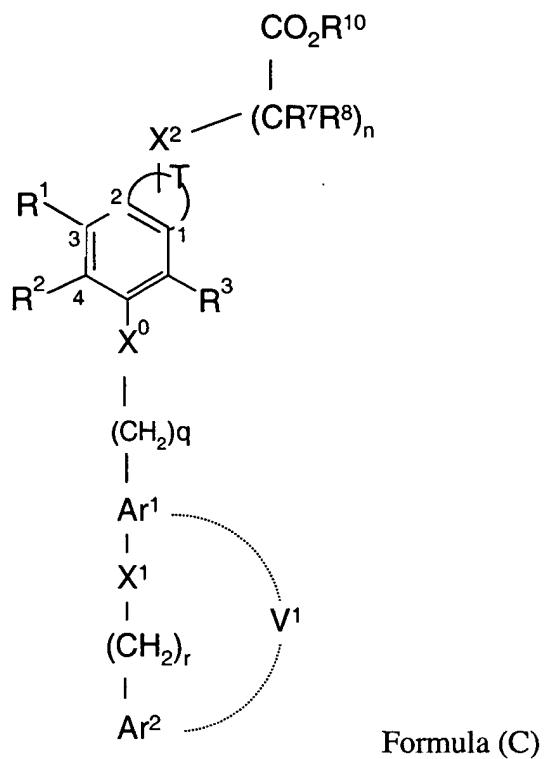
wherein R<sup>10</sup> is a lower alkyl, with a compound of Formula B,

5



Formula (B)

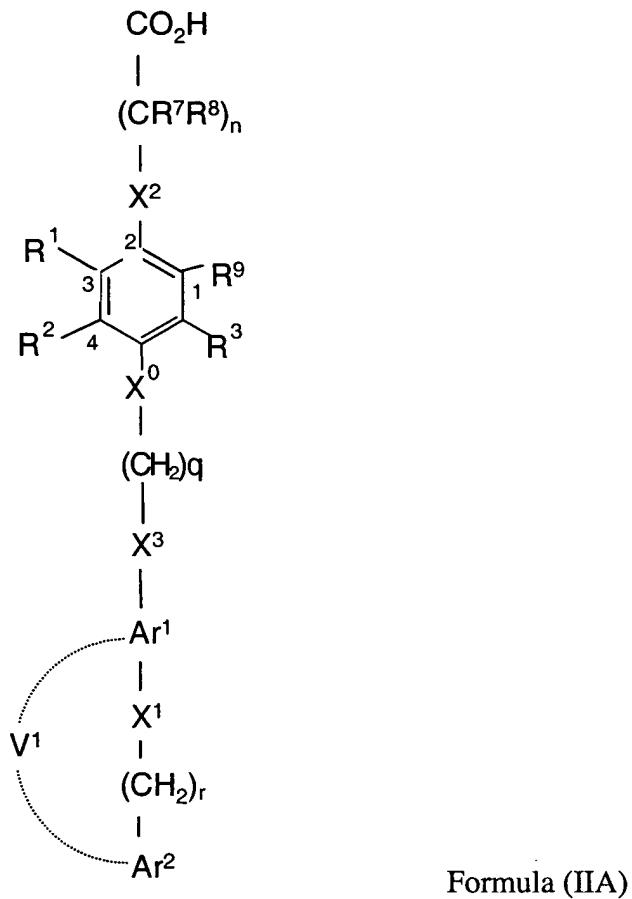
where L is an appropriate leaving group and X<sup>3</sup> is absent, to form a compound having a Formula C,



and subsequently saponifying the compound having a Formula C to form the compound having the Formula I.

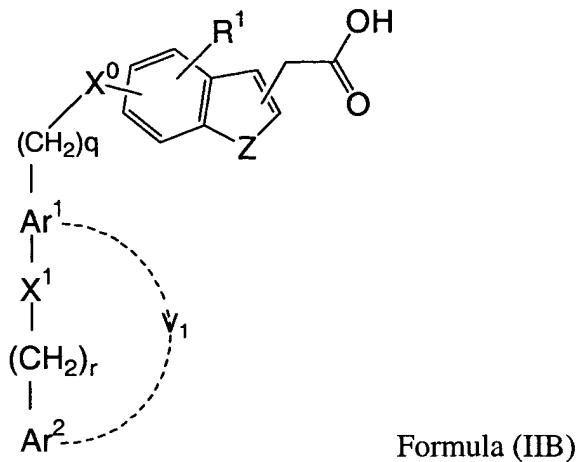
5

The present invention further provides a compound having a Formula II A,

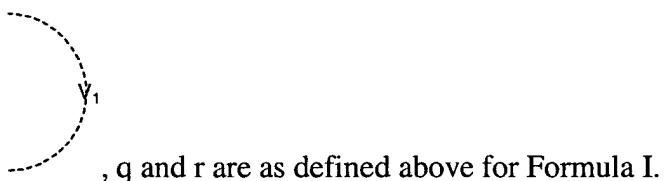


a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, amide ester or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>3</sup> are each independently O, C=O, S,  
 5 CHOR<sup>9</sup>, absent or NR<sup>4</sup>; R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Alkyl, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Aryl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>OR<sup>4</sup>, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, -COR<sup>4</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, or -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are joined together to form a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring; and R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>2</sup>, X<sup>0</sup>,  
 10 X<sup>2</sup>, m, n, p, q and r are as defined above for Formula I.

The present invention further provides a compound having the Formula IIB,

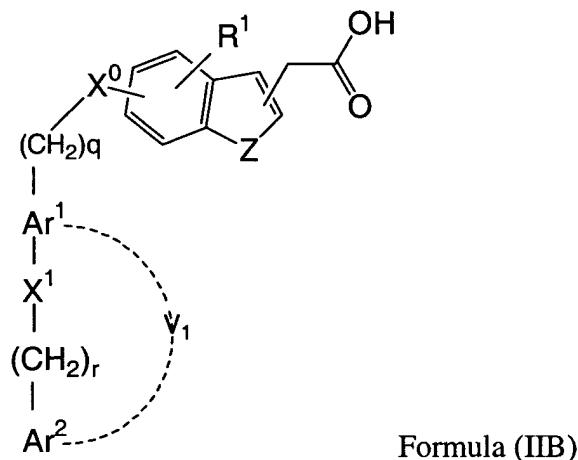


a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or amide thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug wherein  $Z$  is  $NR^4$ , S, or O; and  $R^1$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $X^0$ ,  $X^1$ ,  $Ar^1$ ,  $Ar^2$ ,



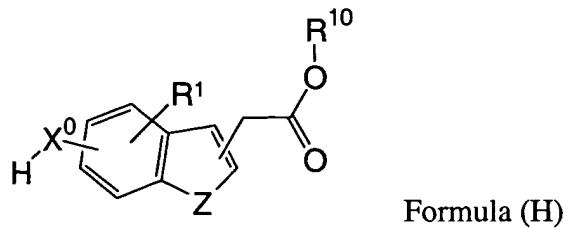
,  $q$  and  $r$  are as defined above for Formula I.

5 The present invention further provides a method of making a compound having the Formula IIB,

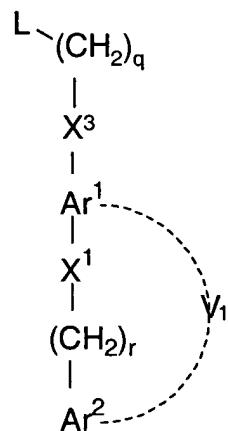


10

comprising reacting a compound of Formula H wherein  $R^{10}$  is a lower alkyl,



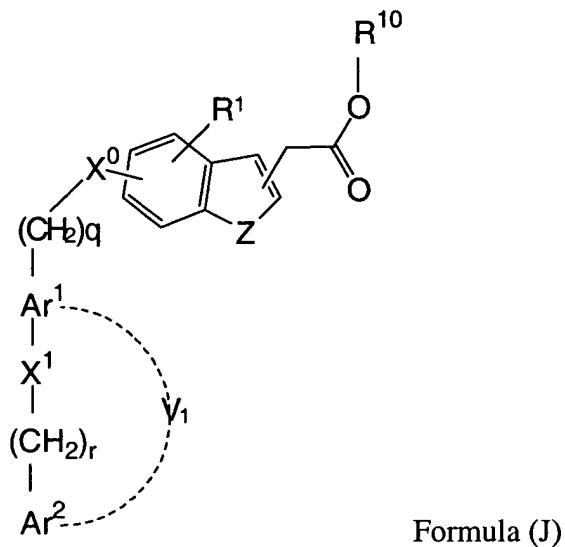
with a compound of Formula B wherein  $X^3$  is absent:



5

$L$  = leaving group      Formula (B)

to form a compound of Formula J:



10 and subsequently saponifying the compound of Formula J to form the compound IIIB.

The present invention provides inter alia the following compounds:

{6-[5-(4-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

10 {6-[5-(4-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-

15 benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-  
benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{5-Methoxy-6-[5-(4-methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

20 {5-Methoxy-6-[5-(3-methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-5-methoxy-  
benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-5-methoxy-

25 benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(4-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

30 {6-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(4-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

5 {6-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

10 {5-Methoxy-6-[5-(4-methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{5-Methoxy-6-[5-(3-methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{6-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-5-methoxy-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

15 {6-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-5-methoxy-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid;

{7-[5-(4-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid;

{7-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid;

20 {7-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid;

{7-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid;

{4-[5-(4-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid;

{4-[5-(3-Methoxymethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid;

25 {4-[5-(4-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid; and

{4-[5-(3-Methanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid.

The following definitions are used, unless otherwise described. Halo is fluoro,  
30 chloro, bromo or iodo. Alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, etc. denote both straight and branched groups; but reference to an individual radical such as "propyl" embraces only

the straight chain radical, a branched chain isomer such as "isopropyl" being specifically recited.

The term "alkyl" as used herein refers to a straight or branched hydrocarbon of from 1 to 11 carbon atoms and includes, for example, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, isobutyl, *tert*-butyl, n-pentyl, n-hexyl, and the like. The alkyl group can also be substituted with one or more of the substituents selected from lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy,  $-\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_{0-2}\text{CF}_3$ , halogen, nitro, cyano,  $=\text{O}$ ,  $=\text{S}$ ,  $-\text{OH}$ ,  $-\text{SH}$ ,  $-\text{CF}_3$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkyl,  $-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{NHC}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkyl,  $-\text{CONR}'\text{R}''$ , or  $-\text{N}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{alkyl})_2$  where R' and R'' are independently alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring. Useful alkyl groups have from 1 to 6 carbon atoms ( $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkyl).

The term "lower alkyl" as used herein refers to a subset of alkyl which means a straight or branched hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and includes, for example, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, isobutyl, *tert*-butyl, n-pentyl, n-hexyl, and the like. Optionally, lower alkyl is referred to as " $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl."

The term "haloalkyl" as used herein refers to a lower alkyl radical, as defined above, bearing at least one halogen substituent, for example, chloromethyl, fluoroethyl, trifluoromethyl, or 1,1,1-trifluoroethyl and the like. Haloalkyl can also include perfluoroalkyl wherein all hydrogens of a loweralkyl group are replaced with fluorine atoms.

The term "alkenyl" means a straight or branched unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms and includes, for example, ethenyl, 1-propenyl, 2-propenyl, 1-butenyl, 2-butenyl, 1-pentenyl, 2-pentenyl, 3-methyl-3-butenyl, 1-hexenyl, 2-hexenyl, 3-hexenyl, 3-heptenyl, 1-octenyl, 1-nonenyl, 1-decenyl, 1-undecenyl, 1-dodecenyl, and the like.

The term "alkynyl" means a straight or branched hydrocarbon radical having of 2 to 12 carbon atoms having at least one triple bond and includes, for example, 3-propynyl, 1-butynyl, 3-butynyl, 1-pentynyl, 3-pentynyl, 3-methyl-3-butynyl, 1-hexynyl, 3-hexynyl, 3-heptynyl, 1-octynyl, 1-nonynyl, 1-decynyl, 1-undecynyl, 1-dodecynyl, and the like.

The term "alkylene" as used herein refers to a divalent group derived from a straight or branched chain saturated hydrocarbon having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms by

the removal of two hydrogen atoms, for example methylene, 1,2-ethylene, 1,1-ethylene, 1,3-propylene, 2,2- dimethylpropylene, and the like. The alkylene groups of this invention can be optionally substituted with one or more of the substituents selected from lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0-2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, =O, =S, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub> alkyl, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -NHC<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub> alkyl, -CONR'R'', or -N(C<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub> where R' and R'' are independently alkyl, akenyl, alkynyl, aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring. Useful alkylene groups have from 1 to 6 carbon atoms (C<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub> alkylene).

The term "heteroatom" as used herein represents oxygen, nitrogen, or sulfur (O, N, or S) as well as sulfoxyl or sulfonyl (SO or SO<sub>2</sub>) unless otherwise indicated.

The term "hydrocarbon chain" as used herein refers to a straight hydrocarbon of from 2 to 6 carbon atoms. The hydrocarbon chain is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0-2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, =O, =S, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub> alkyl, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -NHC<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub> alkyl, -CONR'R'', or -N(C<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub> where R' and R'' are independently alkyl, akenyl, alkynyl, aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring.

The term "hydrocarbon-heteroatom chain" as used herein refers to a hydrocarbon chain wherein one or more carbon atoms are replaced with a heteroatom. The hydrocarbon-heteroatom chain is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0-2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, =O, =S, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub> alkyl, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -NH(C<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub>alkyl), -CONR'R'', or -N(C<sub>1-C<sub>6</sub></sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub> where R' and R'' are independently alkyl, akenyl, alkynyl, aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring.

The term "heteroalkylene" as used herein, refers to an alkylene radical as defined above that includes one or more heteroatoms such as oxygen, sulfur, or nitrogen (with valence completed by hydrogen or oxygen) in the carbon chain or terminating the carbon chain.

The terms "lower alkoxy" and "lower thioalkoxy" as used herein refers to O-alkyl or S-alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms as defined above for "lower alkyl."

The term "aryl" as used herein refers to an aromatic ring which is unsubstituted or optionally substituted by 1 to 4 substituents selected from lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy,  $-\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{CF}_3$ , halogen, nitro, cyano  $-\text{OH}$ ,  $-\text{SH}$ ,  $-\text{CF}_3$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ alkyl}$ ,  $-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{NHC}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ alkyl}$ ,  $-\text{SO}_2\text{alkyl}$ ,  $-\text{SO}_2\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{CONR}'\text{R}''$ , or  $-\text{N}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{alkyl})_2$  where  $\text{R}'$  and  $\text{R}''$  are independently alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring. Examples include, but are not limited to phenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 3-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 2-chloro-3-methylphenyl, 2-chloro-4-methylphenyl, 2-chloro-5-methylphenyl, 3-chloro-2-methylphenyl, 3-chloro-4-methylphenyl, 4-chloro-2-methylphenyl, 4-chloro-3-methylphenyl, 5-chloro-2-methylphenyl, 2,3-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-dichlorophenyl, 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,3-dimethylphenyl, 3,4-dimethylphenyl, or the like. Further, The term "aryl" means a cyclic or polycyclic aromatic ring having from 5 to 12 carbon atoms, and being unsubstituted or substituted with up to 4 of the substituent groups recited above for alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl.

The term "heteroaryl" means an aromatic ring containing one or more heteroatoms. The heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or more groups enumerated for aryl. Examples of heteroaryl include, but are not limited to thienyl, furanyl, pyrrolyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, imidazoyl, pyrazinyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, benzothienyl, benzofuranyl, indolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, and quinazolinyl, and the like. Further, the term "heteroaryl" means an aromatic mono-, bi-, or polycyclic ring incorporating one or more (i.e. 1-4) heteroatoms selected from N, O, and S. It is understood that a heterocycle is optionally substituted with  $-\text{OH}$ ,  $-\text{O}(\text{alkyl})$ ,  $-\text{SH}$ ,  $-\text{S}(\text{alkyl})$ , amine, halogen, acid, ester, amide, amidine, alkyl ketone, aldehyde, nitrile, fluoroalkyl, nitro, sulphone, sulfoxide or Cl-6 alkyl. Examples of suitable monocyclic heteroaryl include, but are not limited to substituted or unsubstituted thienyl, furanyl, pyrrolyl, imidazoyl, pyrazoyl, isothiazoyl, isoxazoyl, triazoyl, tetrazoyl, pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, azetidinyl, aziridinyl, morpholinyl, thietanyl, oxetanyl. Preferred monocyclic diheterocycles include, but are not limited to 1-, 2-, 4-, or 5-imidazoyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, or 5-pyrazoyl, 2-, 4-, or 5-thiazoyl, 3-, 4-, or 5-isothiazoyl, 2-, 4-, or 5-oxazoyl, 3-, 4-, or 5-isoxazoyl, 1, 3-, or 5-triazoyl, 1-, 2-, or 3-

tetrazolyl, 2-pyrazinyl, 2-, 4-, or 5-pyrimidinyl, 1- or 2-piperazinyl, 2-, 3-, or 4-morpholinyl. Examples of suitable bicyclic and polycyclic heteroaryl groups include, but are not limited to 1-, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-indolizinyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-isoindolyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-indolyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-indazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-purinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-quinolizinyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-quinoliyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-isoquinoliyl, 1-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-phthalazinyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, or 6-naphthyridinyl, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-quinazolinyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-cinnolinyl, 2-, 4-, 6-, or 7-pteridinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-4*aH* carbazolyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-carbzaolyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-phenanthridinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-perimidinyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 8-, 9-, or 10-phenathrolinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-phenazinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, or 10-phenothiazinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, or 10-phenoxazinyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, or 10-benzisoquinolinyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, or thieno[2,3-*b*]furanyl, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, or 11-7*H*-pyrazino[2,3-*c*]carbazolyl, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, or 7-2*H*-furo[3,2-*b*]-pyranyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 7-, or 8-5*H*-pyrido[2,3-*d*]-*o*-oxazinyl, 1-, 3-, or 5-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*d*]-oxazolyl, 2-, 4-, or 5-4*H*-imidazo[4,5-*d*]thiazolyl, 3-, 5-, or 8-pyrazino[2,3-*d*]pyridazinyl, 2-, 3-, 5-, or 6-imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazolyl, 1-, 3-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-furo[3,4-*c*]cinnolinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 8-, 9-, 10, or 11-4*H*-pyrido[2,3-*c*]carbazolyl, 2-, 3-, 6-, or 7-imidazo[1,2-*b*][1,2,4]triazinyl, 7-benzo[*b*]thienyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzoxazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzimidazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzothiazolyl, 1-, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-benzoxapinyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-benzoxazinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, or 11-1*H*-pyrrolo[1,2-*b*][2]benzazapinyl. Typical fused heteroaryl groups include, but are not limited to 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-quinolinyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-isoquinolinyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-indolyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzo[*b*]thienyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzoxazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzimidazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzothiazolyl.

The term “heterocycle” means a saturated or unsaturated mono- or polycyclic (i.e. bicyclic) ring incorporating one or more (i.e. 1-4) heteroatoms selected from N, O, and S. It is understood that a heterocycle is optionally substituted with -OH, -O(alkyl), SH, S(alkyl), amine, halogen, acid, ester, amide, amidine, alkyl ketone, aldehyde, nitrile,

fluoroalkyl, nitro, sulphone, sulfoxide or Cl-6 alkyl. Examples of suitable monocyclic heterocycles include, but are not limited to substituted or unsubstituted thienyl, furanyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, azetidinyl, aziridinyl, morpholinyl, thietanyl, oxetanyl. Examples of monocyclic diheterocycles include, but are not limited to, 1-, 2-, 4-, or 5-imidazolyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, or 5-pyrazolyl, 2-, 4-, or 5-thiazolyl, 3-, 4-, or 5-isothiazolyl, 2-, 4-, or 5-oxazolyl, 3-, 4-, or 5-isoxazolyl, 1, 3-, or 5-triazolyl, 1-, 2-, or 3-tetrazolyl, 2-pyrazinyl, 2-, 4-, or 5-pyrimidinyl, 1- or 2-piperazinyl, 2-, 3-, or 4-morpholinyl. Examples of suitable bicyclic heterocycles include, but are not limited to indolizinyl, isoindolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, benzoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, quinazolinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-indolyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-indolizinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-isoindolyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzothienyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzoxazolyl, 1-, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-benzimidazolyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-quinolinyl, and 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, or 8-isoquinolinyl.

Further, the term “heterocycloalkyl” means a monocyclic, fused, bridged, or spiro bicyclic heterocyclic ring systems. Monocyclic heterocyclic rings contain from about 3 to 12 ring atoms, with from 1 to 5 heteroatoms selected from N, O, and S, and preferably from 3 to 7 member atoms, in the ring. Bicyclic heterocyclics contain from 7 to 17 member atoms, preferably 7 to 12 member atoms, in the ring. Bicyclic heterocyclics rings may be fused, spiro, or bridged ring systems. Examples of heterocyclic groups include cyclic ethers (oxiranes) such as ethyleneoxide, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, and substituted cyclic ethers, wherein the substituents are those described above for the alkyl and cycloalkyl groups. Typical substituted cyclic ethers include propyleneoxide, phenyloxirane (styrene oxide), cis-2-butene-oxide (2,3-dimethyloxirane), 3-chlorotetrahydrofuran, 2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dioxane, and the like. Heterocycles containing nitrogen are groups such as pyrrolidine, piperidine, piperazine, tetrahydrotriazine, tetrahydropyrazole, and substituted groups such as 3-aminopyrrolidine, 4-methylpiperazin-1-yl, and the like. Typical sulfur containing heterocycles include tetrahydrothiophene, dihydro-1,3-dithiol-2-yl, and hexahydrothiepin-4-yl. Other commonly employed heterocycles include dihydro-oxathiol-4-yl, tetrahydro-oxazolyl,

tetrahydro-oxadiazolyl, tetrahydro-dioxazolyl, tetrahydro-oxathiazolyl, hexahydrotriazinyl, tetrahydro-oxazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, tetrahydropyrimidinyl, dioxolinyl, octahydrobenzofuranyl, octahydrobenzimidazolyl, and octahydrobenzothiazolyl. For heterocycles containing sulfur, the oxidized sulfur

5 heterocycles containing SO or SO<sub>2</sub> groups are also included. Examples include the sulfoxide and sulfone forms of tetrahydrothiophene. Further examples of heterocycloalkyl, include, but are not limited to, 2- or 3-tetrahydrothieno, 2- or 3-tetrahydrofuran, 2- or 3-pyrrolidino, 2-, 4-, or 5-thiazolidino, 2-, 4-, or 5-oxazolidino, 2-, 3-, or 4-piperidino, N-morpholinyl or N-thiamorpholinyl or tetrahydropyrano.

10 The term “cycloalkyl” means a saturated hydrocarbon ring. Further, the term “cycloalkyl” means a hydrocarbon ring containing from 3 to 12 carbon atoms, for example, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, decalinyl, norpinanyl, and adamantlyl. The cycloalkyl ring may be unsubstituted or substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from alkyl, alkoxy, thioalkoxy, hydroxy, thiol, 15 nitro, halogen, amino, alkyl and dialkylamino, formyl, carboxyl, CN, -NH-CO-R- -CO-NHR-, -CO<sub>2</sub>R-, -COR-, aryl, or heteroaryl, wherein alkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl are as defined herein. Examples of substituted cycloalkyl groups include fluorocyclopropyl, 2-iodocyclobutyl, 2,3-dimethylcyclopentyl, 2,2-dimethoxycyclohexyl, and 3-phenylcyclopentyl.

20 The term “cycloalkenyl” means a cycloalkyl group having one or more carbon-carbon double bond. Example includes cyclobutene, cyclopentene, cyclohexene, cycloheptene, cyclobutadiene, cyclopentadiene, and the like.

The term “patient” means all mammals including humans. Examples of patients include humans, cows, dogs, cats, goats, sheep, pigs, and rabbits.

25 A “therapeutically effective amount” is an amount of a compound of the present invention that when administered to a patient ameliorates a symptom of dyslipidemia, non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, obesity, hyperglycemia, hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, atherosclerosis, hypertriglyceridemia, or hyperinsulinemia.

30 The term “a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, amide, or prodrug” as used herein refers to those carboxylate salts, amino acid addition salts, esters, amides, and prodrugs of the compounds of the present invention which are, within the scope of sound

medical judgment, suitable for use in contact with the tissues of patients without undue toxicity, irritation, allergic response, and the like, commensurate with a reasonable benefit/risk ratio, and effective for their intended use, as well as the zwitterionic forms, where possible, of the compounds of the invention. The term "a pharmaceutically acceptable salt" refers to the relatively non-toxic, inorganic and organic acid or base addition salts of compounds of the present invention. These salts can be prepared in situ during the final isolation and purification of the compounds or by separately reacting the purified compound in its free form with a suitable organic or inorganic acid or base and isolating the salt thus formed. Representative salts include the hydrobromide,

5      hydrochloride, sulfate, bisulfate, nitrate, acetate, oxalate, valerate, oleate, palmitate, stearate, laurate, borate, benzoate, lactate, phosphate, tosylate, citrate, maleate, fumarate, succinate, tartrate, naphthylate mesylate, glucoheptonate, lactobionate, and laurylsulphonate salts, and the like. These may include cations based on the alkali and alkaline earth metals, such as sodium, lithium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, and the

10     like, as well as non-toxic ammonium, quaternary ammonium, and amine cations including, but not limited to ammonium, tetramethylammonium, tetraethylammonium, methylamine, dimethylamine, trimethylamine, triethylamine, ethylamine, and the like. (See, for example, Berge S.M., et al., "Pharmaceutical Salts," *J. Pharm. Sci.*, 1977;66:1-19, which is incorporated herein by reference.) The free base form may be

15     regenerated by contacting the salt form with a base. While the free base may differ from the salt form in terms of physical properties, such as solubility, the salts are equivalent to their respective free bases for the purposes of the present invention.

20     Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable, non-toxic esters of the compounds of this invention include C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl esters wherein the alkyl group is a straight or branched chain. Acceptable esters also include C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkyl esters as well as arylalkyl esters such as, but not limited to benzyl. C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl esters are preferred. Esters of the compounds of the present invention may be prepared according to conventional methods.

25     Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable, non-toxic amides of the compounds of this invention include amides derived from ammonia, primary C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl amines and secondary C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> dialkyl amines wherein the alkyl groups are straight or branched chain. In the case of secondary amines, the amine may also be in the form of a 5- or

6-membered heterocycle containing one nitrogen atom. Amides derived from ammonia, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl primary amines and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> dialkyl secondary amines are preferred. Amides of the compounds of the invention may be prepared according to conventional methods.

“Prodrugs” are intended to include any covalently bonded carrier which releases 5 the active parent drug according to Formulas I-IV in vivo. Further, the term “prodrug” refers to compounds that are transformed in vivo to yield the parent compound of the above formulae, for example, by hydrolysis in blood. A thorough discussion is provided in T. Higuchi and V. Stella, “Pro-drugs as Novel Delivery Systems,” Vol. 14 of the A.C.S. Symposium Series, and in *Bioreversible Carriers in Drug Design*, ed. Edward B. 10 Roche, American Pharmaceutical Association and Pergamon Press, 1987, both of which are hereby incorporated by reference. Examples of prodrugs include acetates, formates, benzoate derivatives of alcohols, and amines present in compounds of Formulas I through IV.

In some situations, compounds may exist as tautomers. All tautomers are included 15 within Formulas I through IV and are provided by this invention.

Certain compounds of the present invention can exist in unsolvated form as well as solvated form including hydrated form. In general, the solvated form including hydrated form is equivalent to unsolvated form and is intended to be encompassed within the scope of the present invention.

20 Certain of the compounds of the present invention possess one or more chiral centers and each center may exist in the R or S configuration. The present invention includes all diastereomeric, enantiomeric, and epimeric forms as well as the appropriate mixtures thereof. Stereoisomers may be obtained, if desired, by methods known in the art as, for example, the separation of stereoisomers by chiral chromatographic columns.  
25 Additionally, the compounds of the present invention may exist as geometric isomers. The present invention includes all cis, trans, syn, anti, entgegen (E), and zusammen (Z) isomers as well as the appropriate mixtures thereof.

The compounds of the present invention are suitable to be administered to a patient for the treatment, control, or prevention of non-insulin dependent diabetes 30 mellitus, hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, obesity, hyperglycemia, hyperlipidemia, atherosclerosis, hypertriglyceridemia, and hyperinsulinemia. Accordingly, the

compounds of the present invention can be administered to a patient alone or as part of a composition that contains other components such as excipients, diluents, and carriers, all of which are well-known in the art. The compositions can be administered to humans and animals either orally, rectally, parenterally (intravenously, intramuscularly, or  
5 subcutaneously), intracisternally, intravaginally, intraperitoneally, intravesically, locally (powders, ointments, or drops), or as a buccal or nasal spray.

Compositions suitable for parenteral injection may comprise physiologically acceptable sterile aqueous or nonaqueous solutions, dispersions, suspensions or emulsions, and sterile powders for reconstitution into sterile injectable solutions or  
10 dispersions. Examples of suitable aqueous and nonaqueous carriers, diluents, solvents or vehicles include water, ethanol, polyols (propyleneglycol, polyethyleneglycol, glycerol, and the like), suitable mixtures thereof, vegetable oils (such as olive oil), and injectable organic esters such as ethyl oleate. Proper fluidity can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the  
15 case of dispersions and by the use of surfactants.

These compositions may also contain adjuvants such as preserving, wetting, emulsifying, and dispensing agents. Prevention of the action of microorganisms can be ensured by various antibacterial and antifungal agents, for example, parabens, chlorobutanol, phenol, sorbic acid, and the like. It may also be desirable to include  
20 isotonic agents, for example sugars, sodium chloride, and the like. Prolonged absorption of the injectable pharmaceutical form can be brought about by the use of agents delaying absorption, for example, aluminum monostearate and gelatin.

Solid dosage forms for oral administration include capsules, tablets, pills, powders, and granules. In such solid dosage forms, the active compound is admixed with  
25 at least one inert customary excipient (or carrier) such as sodium citrate or dicalcium phosphate or (a) fillers or extenders, as for example, starches, lactose, sucrose, glucose, mannitol, and silicic acid; (b) binders, as for example, carboxymethylcellulose, alignates, gelatin, polyvinylpyrrolidone, sucrose, and acacia; (c) humectants, as for example, glycerol; (d) disintegrating agents, as for example, agar-agar, calcium carbonate, potato  
30 or tapioca starch, alginic acid, certain complex silicates, and sodium carbonate; (e) solution retarders, as for example paraffin; (f) absorption accelerators, as for example,

quaternary ammonium compounds; (g) wetting agents, as for example, cetyl alcohol and glycerol monostearate; (h) adsorbents, as for example, kaolin and bentonite; and (i) lubricants, as for example, talc, calcium stearate, magnesium stearate, solid polyethylene glycols, sodium lauryl sulfate, or mixtures thereof. In the case of capsules, 5 tablets, and pills, the dosage forms may also comprise buffering agents.

Solid compositions of a similar type may also be employed as fillers in soft and hard-filled gelatin capsules using such excipients as lactose or milk sugar as well as high molecular weight polyethyleneglycols, and the like.

Solid dosage forms such as tablets, dragees, capsules, pills, and granules can be 10 prepared with coatings and shells, such as enteric coatings and others well-known in the art. They may contain opacifying agents, and can also be of such composition that they release the active compound or compounds in a certain part of the intestinal tract in a delayed manner. Examples of embedding compositions which can be used are polymeric substances and waxes. The active compounds can also be in micro-encapsulated form, if 15 appropriate, with one or more of the above-mentioned excipients.

Liquid dosage forms for oral administration include pharmaceutically acceptable emulsions, solutions, suspensions, syrups, and elixirs. In addition to the active compounds, the liquid dosage forms may contain inert diluents commonly used in the art, such as water or other solvents, solubilizing agents and emulsifiers, as for example, ethyl 20 alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, ethyl carbonate, ethyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, benzyl benzoate, propylene glycol, 1,3-butyleneglycol, dimethylformamide, oils, in particular, cottonseed oil, groundnut oil, corn germ oil, olive oil, castor oil and sesame oil, glycerol, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, polyethyleneglycols and fatty acid esters of sorbitan or mixtures of these substances, and the like.

25

Besides such inert diluents, the composition can also include adjuvants, such as wetting agents, emulsifying and suspending agents, sweetening, flavoring, and perfuming agents.

Suspensions, in addition to the active compounds, may contain suspending agents, 30 as for example, ethoxylated isostearyl alcohols, polyoxyethylene sorbitol and sorbitan

esters, microcrystalline cellulose, aluminum metahydroxide, bentonite, agar-agar and tragacanth, or mixtures of these substances, and the like.

Compositions for rectal administrations are preferably suppositories which can be prepared by mixing the compounds of the present invention with suitable non-irritating excipients or carriers such as cocoa butter, polyethyleneglycol, or a suppository wax, which are solid at ordinary temperatures but liquid at body temperature and therefore, melt in the rectum or vaginal cavity and release the active component.

Dosage forms for topical administration of a compound of this invention include ointments, powders, sprays, and inhalants. The active component is admixed under sterile conditions with a physiologically acceptable carrier and any preservatives, buffers, or propellants as may be required. Ophthalmic formulations, eye ointments, powders, and solutions are also contemplated as being within the scope of this invention.

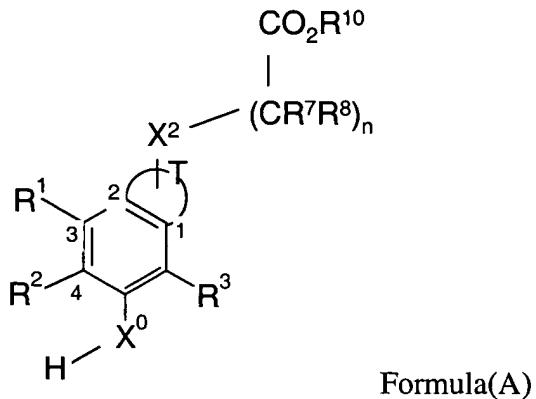
The compounds of the present invention can be administered to a patient at dosage levels in the range of about 0.1 to about 2,000 mg per day. For a normal human adult having a body weight of about 70 kilograms, a dosage in the range of about 0.01 to about 100 mg per kilogram of body weight per day is preferable. The specific dosage used, however, can vary. For example, the dosage can depend on a numbers of factors including the requirements of the patient, the severity of the condition being treated, and the pharmacological activity of the compound being used. The determination of optimum dosages for a particular patient is well-known to those skilled in the art.

#### PREPARATION OF COMPOUNDS OF THE INVENTION

The present invention contains compounds that can be synthesized in a number of ways familiar to one skilled in organic synthesis. The compounds outlined herein can be synthesized according to the methods described below, along with methods typically utilized by a synthetic chemist, and combinations or variations of those methods, which are generally known to one skilled in the art of synthetic chemistry. The synthetic route of compounds in the present invention is not limited to the methods outlined below. It is assumed one skilled in the art will be able to use the schemes outlined below to synthesize compounds claimed in this invention. Individual compounds may require

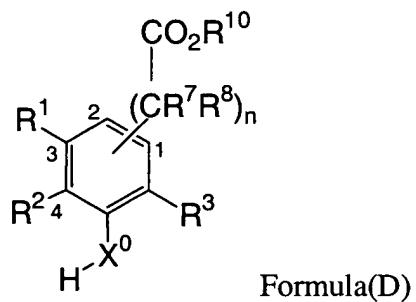
manipulation of the conditions in order to accommodate various functional groups. A variety of protecting groups generally known to one skilled in the art may be required. Purification, if necessary, can be accomplished on a silica gel column eluted with the appropriate organic solvent system. Also, reverse phase HPLC or recrystallization may  
5 be employed.

A compound of Formula I or Formula II may be made by reacting a compound of Formula A,



10

or a compound of Formula D,



wherein R<sup>10</sup> is a lower alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; X<sup>2</sup> is absent, O, S, or NR<sup>4</sup>; X<sup>0</sup> is absent, O, S, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH=CH-, or -CH=CH-; T is a saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbon chain or hydrocarbon-heteroatom chain having from 3 to 6 atoms wherein the carbon atom of position 1 is connected to the carbon atom of position



5 2 to form a five to eight member ring wherein the  $\text{X}^2 (\text{CR}^7\text{R}^8)_n$  is attached to a substitutionally available position of said ring; R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkoxy, O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogen, nitro, cyano, -OH, -SH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Alkyl, S(O)<sub>p</sub>Aryl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>OR<sup>4</sup>, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, COR<sup>4</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, or -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are joined together to form a substituted or unsubstituted, 10 saturated or unsaturated cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl ring;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or aryl;

R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, SO<sub>2</sub>Alkyl or, SO<sub>2</sub>Aryl, or joined together to form a 4 to 7 member ring having 0 to 3 heteroatoms;

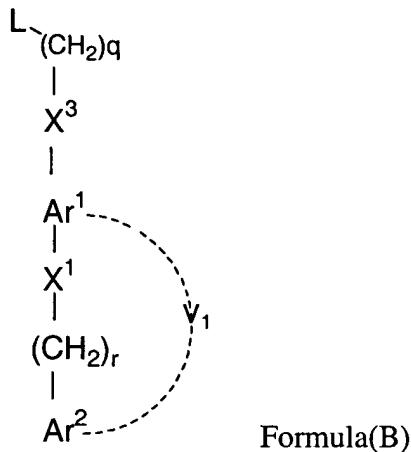
15 R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are independently H, CH<sub>3</sub> Halo, or R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> taken together form a 3-6 membered hydrocarbon ring, optionally containing a heteroatom.

m is an integer from 0 to 5;

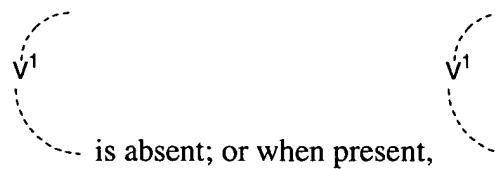
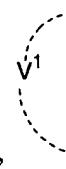
n is an integer from 0 to 5; and

p is an integer from 0 to 2;

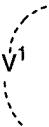
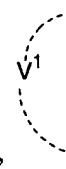
20 in an appropriate solvent in the presence of a base such as cesium carbonate, with a compound of Formula E,



wherein L is an appropriate leaving group; Ar<sup>1</sup> and Ar<sup>2</sup> are each independently absent or unsubstituted or substituted aryl or heteroaryl,

 is absent; or when present,  is a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon

5 chain which is substituted or unsubstituted, wherein said chain has from 1 to 4 atoms so

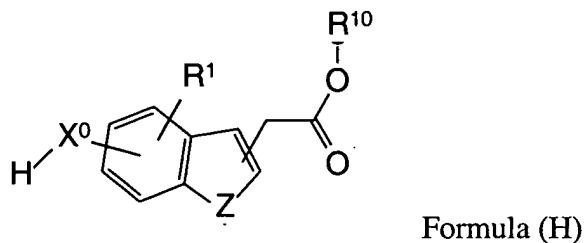
 that  , Ar<sup>1</sup>, X<sup>1</sup>, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>r</sub> and Ar<sup>2</sup>, together form a five to eight membered ring; X<sup>1</sup> is absent, O, S, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CH=CH-, or -C=C-; X<sup>3</sup> is O, C=O, S, CHOR<sup>9</sup>, absent or NR<sup>4</sup>; q is an integer from 0 to 10; and r is an integer from 0-10.

The resulting ester may then be saponified to form a compound of Formula I or Formula

10 II.

“An appropriate leaving group” as used herein and above means a substituent group that can leave as a relatively stable, weakly basic molecule or ion, such as for example, bromide, chloride, or mesylate. “Appropriate solvents” as used herein means polar aprotic solvents such as, for example, acetonitrile or tetrahydrofuran.

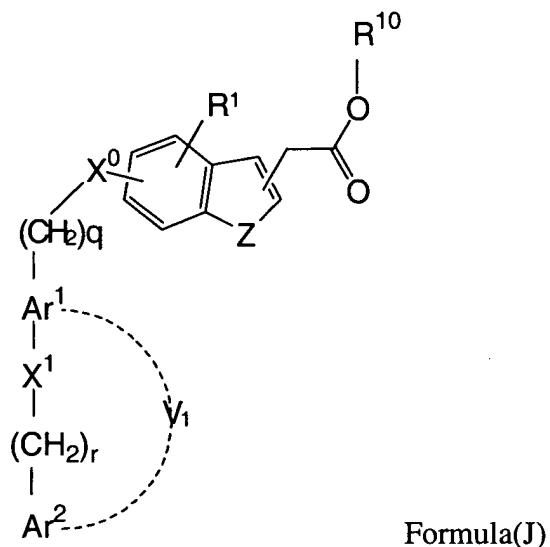
15 A compound of Formula IA, for example, may be made by reacting a compound of Formula H,



wherein R<sup>10</sup> is a lower alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; Z is NR<sup>5</sup>, S, or O; and X<sup>0</sup> and R<sup>1</sup> are as above-defined, with a compound of Formula B, shown above, wherein X<sup>3</sup> is absent,

5

to form a compound of Formula J:



and subsequently saponifying the compound of Formula J to form the compound of  
10 Formula IA.

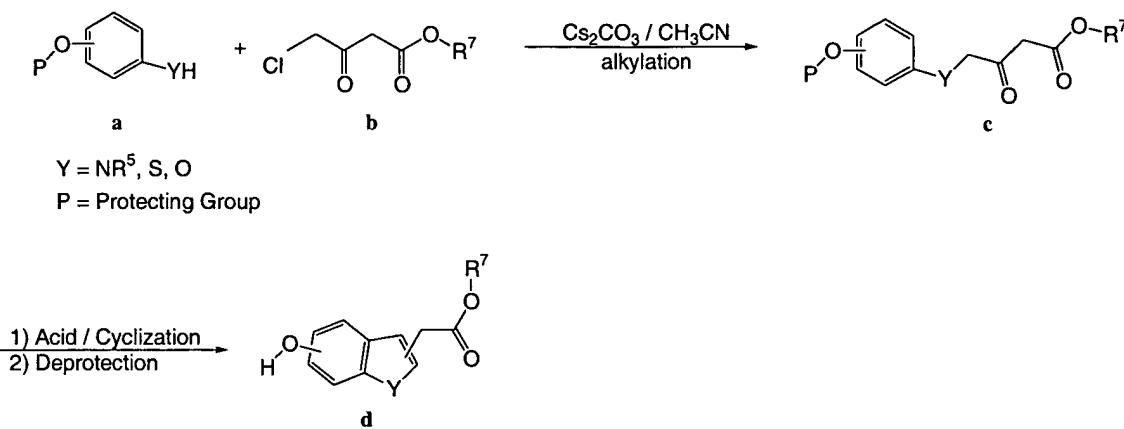
Specifically, compounds of Formulas I through IV may be prepared using the synthetic routes outlined in Scheme 1-6. With reference to the schemes that follow, any one of **d**, **d.3**, **f.1**, **f.2**, **g**, **j**, **n**, or **u** may be reacted with any one of **Y**, **CC**, **FF**, or **JJ** in the presence of a base such as cesium carbonate to give an intermediate product which may  
15 be then saponified with lithium hydroxide to give the final product.

Compounds of the general formula **d** are either commercially available or can be prepared as described in Scheme 1. Compounds with an appropriate protecting group of the general formula **a** are alkylated with compounds of the general formula **b** in the

presence of a base such as cesium carbonate to give compounds of the general formula **c**. Subsequent cyclization of **c** in the presence of an acid such as methanesulfonic acid followed by deprotection give compounds of the general formula **d**.

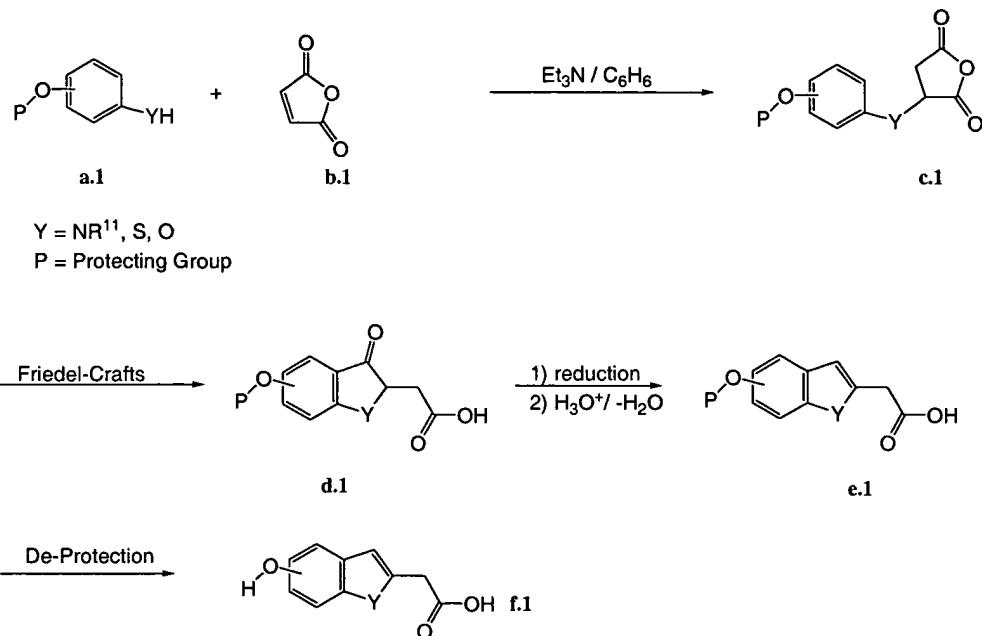
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Scheme 1



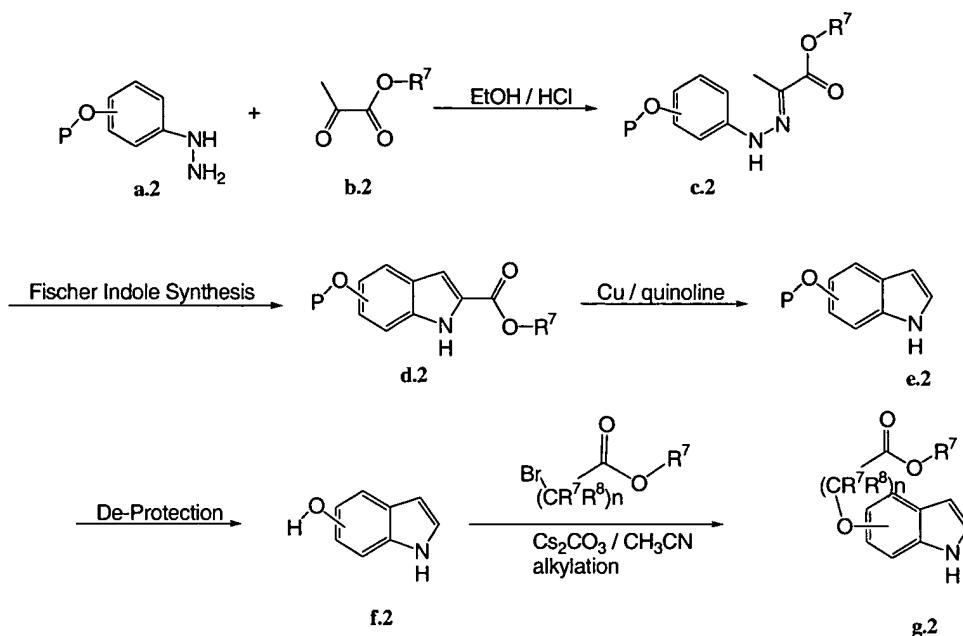
Compounds of the general formula **f.1** are either commercially available or can be prepared as described in Scheme 1.1. Compounds with an appropriate protecting group of the general formula **a.1** are reacted with maleic anhydride (**b.1**) in the presence of a catalytic amount of base such as triethylamine to give compounds of the general formula **c.1**. Intra-molecular Friedel-Crafts acylation with a Lewis acid such as aluminum trichloride or zinc chloride may give compounds of the general formula **d.1**. Reduction of **d.1** with sodium cyanoborohydride or sodium borohydride and subsequent dehydration of the intermediate alcohol may give compounds of the general formula **e.1**. Deprotection may then give compounds of the general formula **f.1**.

Scheme 1.1



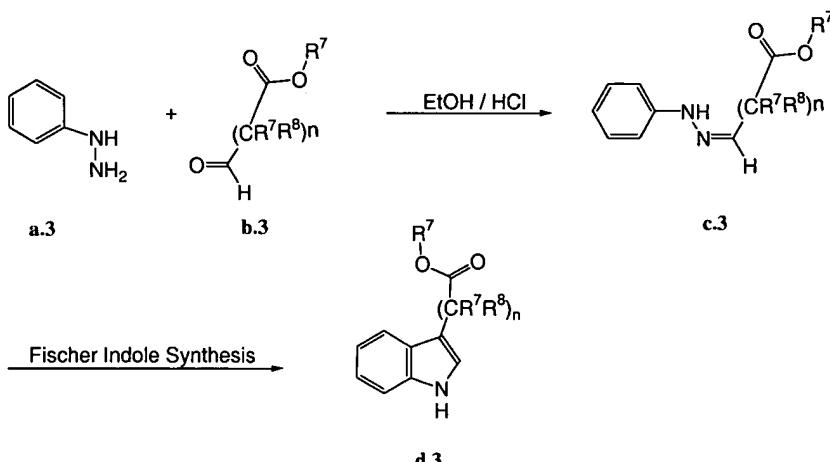
5 Compounds of the general formula **g.2** are either commercially available or can  
be prepared as described in Scheme 1.2. Compounds with an appropriate protecting  
group of the general formula **a.2** are condensed with a pyruvate ester (**b.2**) in the  
presence of a catalytic amount of acid such as hydrochloric acid to give compounds of  
the general formula **c.2**. Fischer indole cyclization with a Lewis acid such zinc chloride  
10 or poly phosphoric acid, may give compounds of the general formula **d.2**. De-  
carboxylation with copper powder in quinoline and subsequent de-protection may give  
compounds of the general formula **f.2**. Selective O-alkylation using a base such as  
cesium carbonate may give compounds of the general formula **g.2**.

Scheme 1.2



Compounds of the general formula **d.3** are either commercially available or can be prepared as described in Scheme 1.3. Compounds of the general formula **a.3** are 5 condensed with an aldehyde (**b.3**) in the presence of a catalytic amount of acid such as hydrochloric acid to give compounds of the general formula **c.3**. Fischer indole cyclization with a Lewis acid such zinc chloride or poly phosphoric acid, may give compounds of the general formula **d.3**.

Scheme 1.3

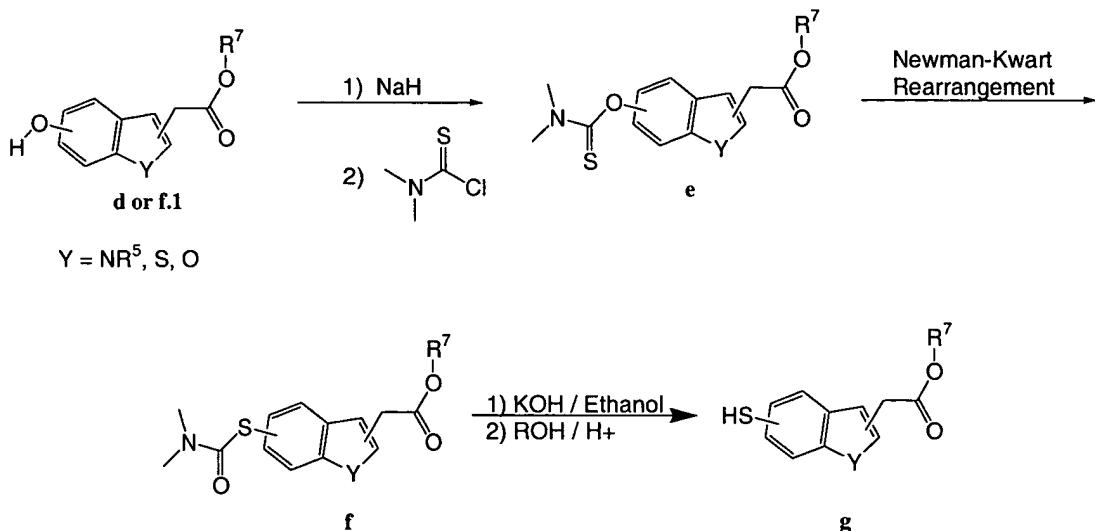


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Compounds of the general formula **g** can be prepared as described in Scheme 2. Compound **e** may be prepared by thiocarbamoylation of compound **d** or **f.1**. Compound **f**

may be prepared by a Newman-Kwart rearrangement of compound **e** in refluxing diphenyl ether. Saponification and re-esterification of compound **f** then gives compound **g**.

Scheme 2



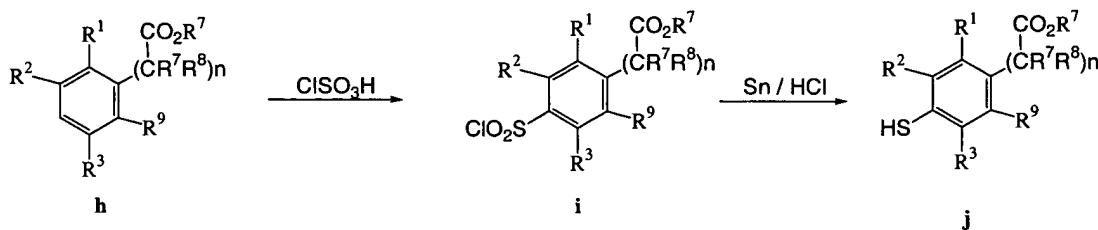
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Compounds of the general formula **j** may be prepared as described in scheme 3.

Compounds of the general formula **h** are commercially available or their preparation is obvious to one skilled in the art. **h** may be reacted with chlorosulfonic acid to give **i**

10 followed by reduction with, for example, tin, zinc or Lithium Aluminum Hydride (LAH) to give a thiol **j**.

Scheme 3



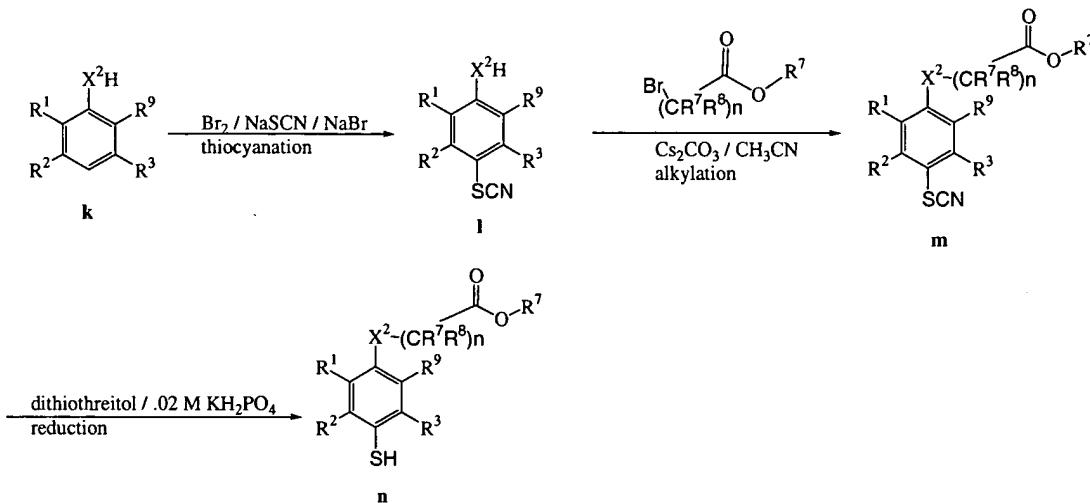
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With reference to Scheme 4, compounds of the general formula **k** may be thiocyanated with, for example, a mixture of bromine and sodium thiocyanate to give compounds of

the general formula **I**. Compounds of the general formula **I** may be alkylated with a haloester to give compounds of the general formula **m**. A preferred haloester is bromoester. Compounds of the general formula **n** may be prepared by reduction of **m** with, for example, dithiothreitol in methanol or mercaptoacetic acid in methanol.

5

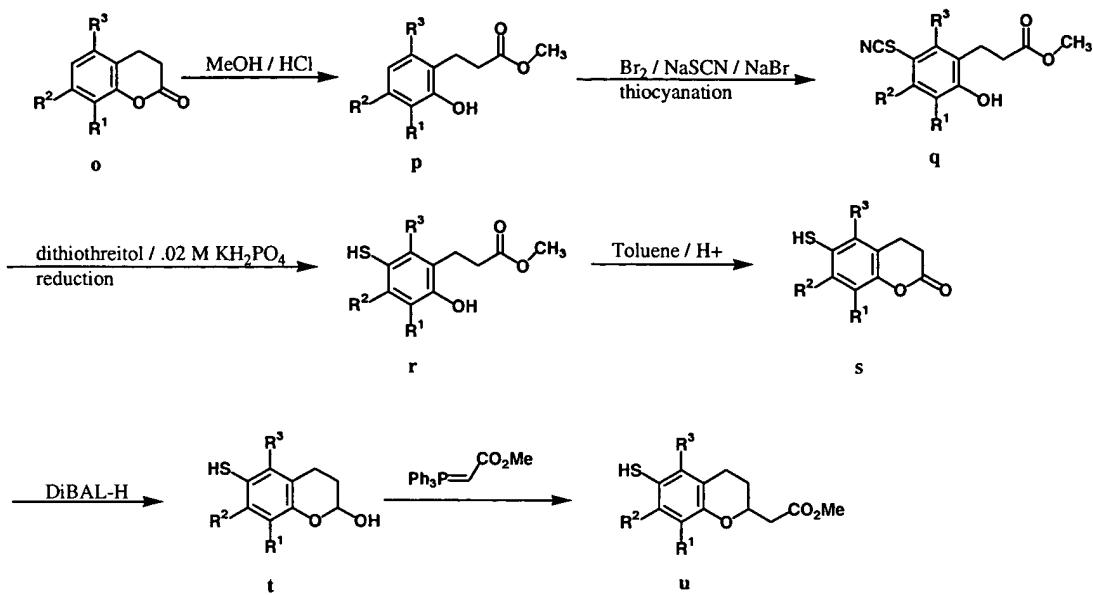
Scheme 4



With reference to Scheme 5, compounds of the general formula **o**, may be esterified to  
 10 the appropriate ester, preferably methyl ester to give compounds of the general formula **p**. Compounds of the general formula **p** may be thiocyanated with a mixture of bromine and sodium thiocyanate to give compounds of the general formula **q**, which may be then reduced with for example, dithiothreitol in methanol or mercaptoacetic acid in methanol to give **r**. Ring closure may be effected by refluxing **r** in toluene in the presence of an  
 15 acid such as, trifluoroacetic acid to give **s**. Compounds of the general formula **s** may be reduced to give **t** followed by a Wittig or Horner-Emmons reaction to give compounds of the general formula **u**.

Scheme 5

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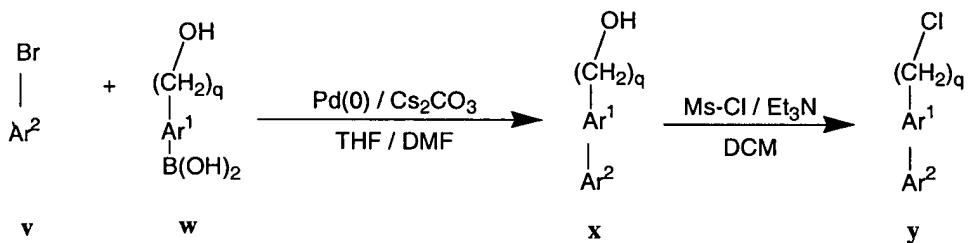


With reference to Scheme 6, compounds of the general formula **x** are prepared by reacting an appropriate aryl boronic acid, such as hydroxymethylphenyl boronic acid **w** with, for example, aryl bromide **v** in the presence of Pd(0) and cesium carbonate.

Compounds of the general formula **x** may be reacted with a chlorinating agent such as methanesulfonyl chloride to give chlorides of the general formula **y**.

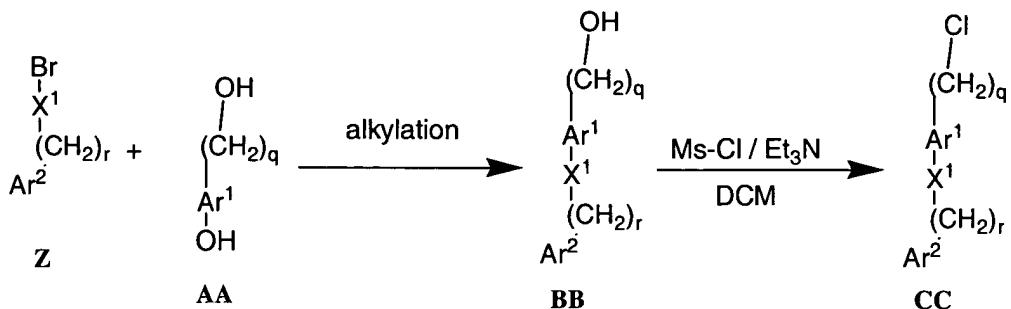
Scheme 6

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With reference to Scheme 7, compounds of the general formula **CC** may be prepared wherein an appropriate hydroxy benzyl alcohol **AA** is alkylated with an appropriate bromide **Z**. The resulting compound **BB** is then reacted with a chlorinating agent such as methanesulfonyl chloride to give chlorides of the general formula **CC**.

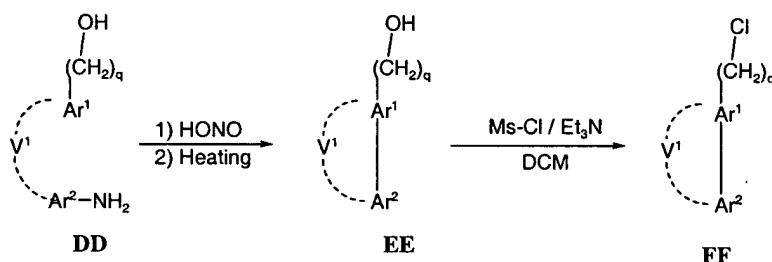
Scheme 7



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With reference to Scheme 8, compounds of the general formula **FF** can be prepared by reacting an appropriately substituted aryl amine **DD** under Sandmeyer conditions followed by heating to give intermediate **EE**. The resulting intermediate **EE** may then be reacted with a chlorinating agent such as methanesulfonyl chloride to give 10 chlorides of the general formula **FF**.

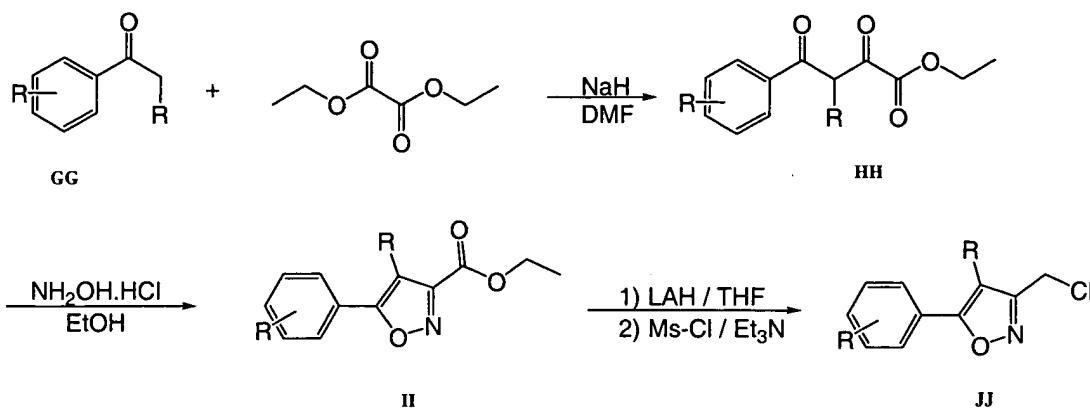
Scheme 8



15

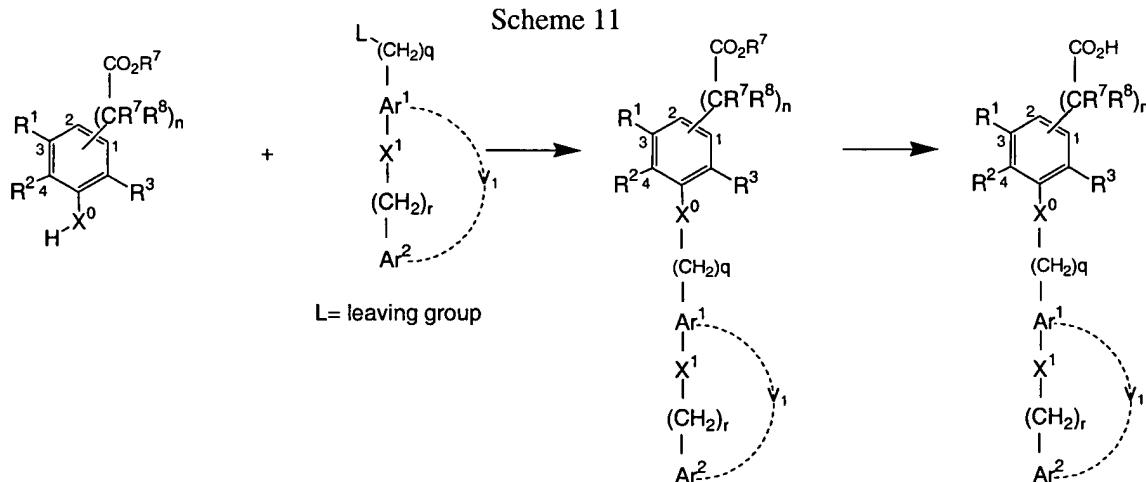
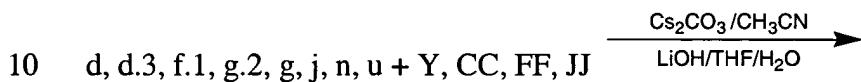
With reference to Scheme 9, compounds of the general formula **GG** may be alkylated with a diesterified oxalic acid, for example, diethyl oxalate to give **HH**. Compounds of the general formula **HH** may then be cyclized in the presence of hydroxylamine hydrochloride to give **II**. Compounds of the general formula **II** may then be reduced and 20 chlorinated as described previously to give **JJ**.

Scheme 9



Finally, any one of **d**, **d.3**, **f.1**, **g.2**, **g**, **j**, **n**, or **u** may be reacted with any one of **Y**, **CC**, **FF**, or **JJ** in the presence of a base such as cesium carbonate to give an intermediate product which may be then saponified with lithium hydroxide to give the final product. This is depicted in scheme 10 and scheme 11.

Scheme 10

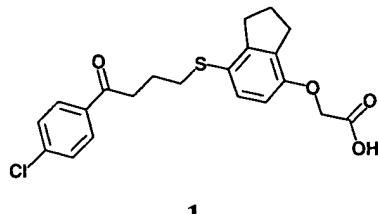


The following non-limiting descriptions also demonstrate methods for the synthesis of compounds of the invention.

**Example 1**

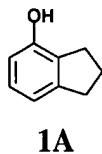
**Synthesis of {7-[4-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid  
(compound 1)**

5



1

10



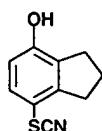
1A

A mixture of 4-hydroxy-indan-1-one (5.0 g, 33.7 mmol), sodium cyanoborohydride (6.4 g, 101.1 mmol), and zinc iodide (32.3 g, 101.1 mmol) in dichloroethane, was heated at reflux for two hours. The reaction mixture was then filtered through 50 g SiO<sub>2</sub> while still warm, eluting further with dichloroethane. The filtrate was collected and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was added to diethyl ether and the resulting white precipitate was filtered off. The filtrate was collected and concentrated in vacuo to give 4.2 g of the title compound with purity high enough for subsequent use. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 9.06 (s, 1H), 6.86 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.59 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.48 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 2.75 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 2.67 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.92 (m, 2H).

15

**Step 2. Preparation of 7-Thiocyanato-indan-4-ol (compound 1B)**

20



25

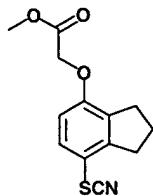
**1B**

The product from **Example 1A** (2.75 g, 20.5 mmol), sodium thiocyanate (4.98 g, 61.6 mmol), and sodium bromide (2.1 g, 20.5 mmol) were dissolved in 80 ml anhydrous methanol. Bromine (3.28 g, 20.5 mmol) was added drop wise over 15 minutes and allowed to stir at ambient temperature for 1 h. Brine was added (50 ml) and the crude product was extracted into ethyl acetate (3x100 ml). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted, and concentrated to afford the title product in good purity. MS *m/z* 192 (M+1).

10

**Step 3. Preparation of (7-Thiocyanato-indan-4-yloxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 1C)**

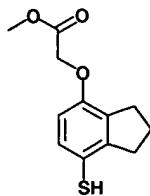
15



**1C**

7-Thiocyanato-indan-4-ol (**Example 1B**) (3.23g, 16.89 mmol), cesium carbonate (11 g, 33.8 mmol) and methyl bromoacetate (2.58g, 16.89 mmol) were stirred in 20 ml acetonitrile at ambient temperature for 4 h. The reaction was filtered and concentrated. The crude product was recrystallized from ethyl acetate/heaxanes to afford the title product. MS *m/z* 239 (M+1).

25    **Step 4. Preparation of (7-Mercapto-indan-4-yloxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 1D)**

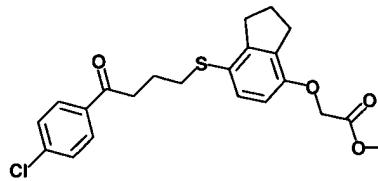


**1D**

5 (7-Thiocyanato-indan-4-yloxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (Example **1C**) (3.09g, 12.9 mmol) was dissolved in 30 ml methanol. Dithiothreitol (2.6g) was added followed by sodium borohydride (200 mg). The reaction was stirred for 1 hour followed by concentration to an oil. The crude product was dissolved in 200 ml dichloromethane and filtered through silica gel and eluted with 200 ml dichloromethane. The product was then  
10 recrystallized from ethyl acetate/heaxanes to afford the title product. MS *m/z* 239 (M+1).

**Step 4. Preparation of {7-[4-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound **1E**)**

15



**1E**

Compound **1D** (300 mg, 1.26 mmol), 4-chloro-1-(4-chloro-phenyl)-butan-1-one (327 mg, 1.51 mmol), and cesium carbonate (616 mg, 1.89 mmol) in 10 ml anhydrous acetonitrile  
20 were stirred at ambient temperature for 72 hours. The reaction was then run through 0.5 g SiO<sub>2</sub> eluting with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The eluant was collected and concentrated to give the title compound, pure enough for subsequent use. MS *m/z* 419 (M+1).

**Step 5. Preparation of {7-[4-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid (compound **1**)**

The product from **Example 1E** (528 mg, 1.26 mmol) and lithium hydroxide monohydrate (264 mg, 6.3 mmol) were dissolved in 5 ml THF /water solution (5:1). The reaction then stirred at ambient temperature for one hour followed by blowing to dryness with a stream of N<sub>2</sub>. The crude residue was then taken up in EtOAc, and acidified with 6N HCl. The  
5 organic layer was then separated, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated *in vacuo*.

Recrystallisation from acetonitrile/water afforded the title compound (200 mg, 39%).

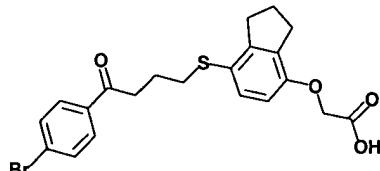
400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.95 (br(s), 1H), 7.87 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.52 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.07 (d, 1H, J = 8.6 Hz), 6.58 (d, 1H, J = 8.6 Hz), 4.62 (s, 2H), 3.09 (t, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.79 (m, 6H), 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.78 (m, 2H). MS *m/z* 405 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd

10 for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>Cl<sub>1</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>1</sub> C, 62.29; H, 5.23; found: C, 62.12; H, 4.88.

### Example 2

#### Synthesis of {7-[4-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid

15 (compound 2)



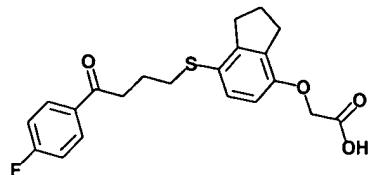
2

Compound 2 was made in a similar manner as described for compound 1. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H  
20 NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.95 (br(s), 1H), 7.80 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.67 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.07 (d, 1H, J = 8.5 Hz), 6.57 (d, 1H, J = 8.5 Hz), 4.61 (s, 2H), 3.08 (t, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.78 (m, 6H), 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.77 (m, 2H). MS *m/z* 451 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>Br<sub>1</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>1</sub> C, 56.13; H, 4.71; found: C, 55.57; H, 4.27.

25

### Example 3

**Synthesis of {7-[4-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid  
(compound 3)**



**3**

5

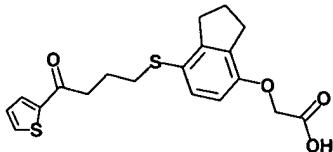
Compound 3 was made in a similar manner as described for compound 1. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.96 (m, 2H), 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz), 6.58 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz), 4.60 (s, 2H), 3.09 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz), 2.79 (m, 6H), 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.78 (m, 2H). MS  $m/z$  398 (M+1).

10

**Example 4**

**Synthesis of [7-(4-Oxo-4-thiophen-2-yl-butylsulfanyl)-indan-4-yloxy]-acetic acid**

15    **(compound 4)**



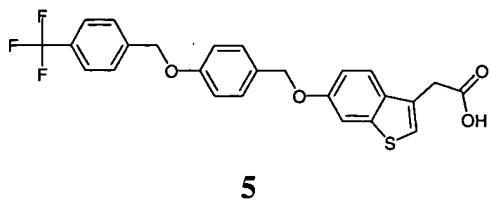
**4**

Compound 4 was made in a similar manner as described for compound 1. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.94 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 4.9 Hz), 7.86 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 4.9 Hz), 7.18 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 4.9 Hz), 7.07 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 6.58 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 4.62 (s, 2H), 3.04 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz), 2.79 (m, 6H), 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.77 (m, 2H). MS  $m/z$  377 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub> C, 60.61; H, 5.35; found: C, 60.31; H, 4.97.

**Example 5**

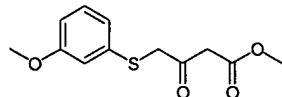
**Synthesis of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 5)**

5



**Step 1. Preparation of 4-(3-Methoxy-phenylsulfanyl)-3-oxo-butyric acid methyl ester (compound 5A)**

10



A solution of methyl 2-chloroacetoacetate (15.0 g, 0.10 mol) in 20 ml of acetonitrile was  
15 added dropwise to a mixture of 3-methoxythiophenol (14.0 g, 0.10 mol) and cesium  
carbonate (65.2 g, 0.20 mol) in 400 ml of acetonitrile over 30 min. The mixture was  
stirred at room temperature for 2 hours, then filtered through Celite®. The filtrate was  
concentrated and purified using normal phase chromatography. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR  
(DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.21 (dt, 1H), 6.95-6.85 (m, 2H), 6.78 (dd, 1H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H),  
20 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 2H), MS (ES (M-1)=253).

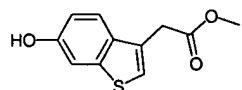
**Step 2. Preparation of (6-methoxybenzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)acetic acid methyl ester (compound 5B)**

25



The product from example **5A** (2.54 g, 0.01 mol) was added dropwise to 25 ml of methanesulfonic acid at room temperature, and the solution was stirred at the same temperature for 15 minutes, then the reaction mixture was added to 250 ml of ice-water. The aqueous mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed 5 with brine, sodium bicarbonate, dried over sodium sulfate, and concentrated to give **5B** in good purity. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.64 (d, 1H), 7.32 (d, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.04 (dd, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), MS (ES (M+1)=236).

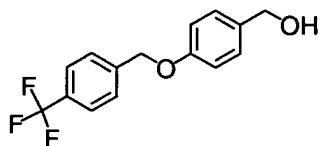
10 **Step 3. Preparation of (6-hydroxy-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)acetic acid methyl ester  
(compound 5C)**



**5C**

15 To a stirred solution of the product from example **5B** (2.20 g, 9.32 mmol) in 50 ml of dichloromethane at – 78 °C was added dropwise a solution of boron tribromide (11.68 g, 46.6 mmol) in 50 ml of dichloromethane. After the completion of the addition of boron tribromide, the reaction mixture was maintained at – 78 °C for 1 h, then allowed to reach 20 room temperature and stirred at the same temperature overnight. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C, carefully quenched with 100 ml of water, extracted with ethyl acetate, washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate, concentrated, and purified using normal phase chromatography to afford the title product. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.59 (d, 1H), 7.25 (d, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.92 (dd, 1H), 5.20 (brs, 1H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 25 MS (ES (M+1)=223).

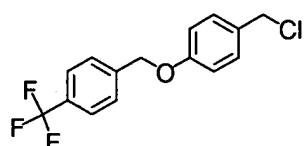
**Step 4. Preparation of [4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-phenyl]-methanol  
(compound 5D)**



**5D**

5 4-Hydroxymethyl-phenol (1g, 8.06 mmol), 1-Chloromethyl-4-trifluoromethyl-benzene (1.57g, 8.06 mmol), and cesium carbonate (5.26g, 16.12 mmol) were refluxed in acetonitrile for 20h, cooled, filtered, and concentrated to give the title compound. MS *m/z* 265 (M-H<sub>2</sub>O+1).

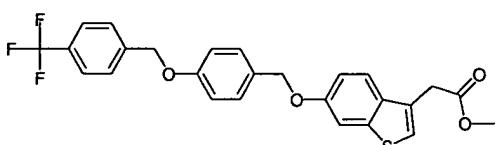
10 **Step 5. Preparation of 1-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-4-chloromethyl-benzene (compound 5E)**



**5E**

15 To a cooled (0 °C) solution of the product from Example 5D (10 g, 37 mmoles) in 138 mL of anhydrous dichloromethane was added 12.8 mL of triethylamine (9.3 g, 92 mmoles), followed by 5.7 mL of methanesulfonyl chloride (8.4 g, 73 mmoles). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 hr and then at room temperature for 18 hrs. The reaction mixture was evaporated onto 8 g of silica gel and chromatographed (silica gel, 20 10% ethyl acetate in hexane) to provide analytically pure product. MS *m/z* 265 (M-Cl+1).

**Step 6. Preparation of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 5F)**



25

**5F**

Compounds **5C**, **5E** and cesium carbonate in 10 mL AcCN stirred at 60oC for 18 hours. The reaction was then cooled, diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O and filtered through Celite®. The filtrate was collected and concentrated *in vacuo*. Recrystallisation from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/Hexanes 5 gave 340 mg (62%) of the title compound. MS *m/z* 487 (M+1).

**Step 7. Preparation of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 5)**

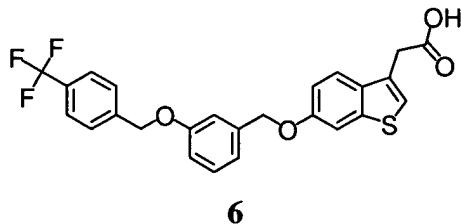
10

The title compound was prepared from compound **5F** in a manner analogous to compound **1**. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.39 (s(br), 1H), 7.71 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.58 (m, 3H), 7.36 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.00 (m, 4H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 5.03 (s, 2H), 3.73 (s, 2H); MS *m/z* 473 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>1</sub> C, 63.55; H, 4.05; found: C, 63.35; H, 3.73.

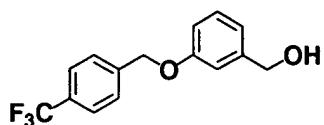
**Example 6**

**Synthesis of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 6)**

20



**Step 1. Preparation of [3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-phenyl]-methanol  
(compound 6A)**

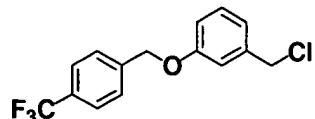


**6A**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **5D** using 1-bromomethyl-4-trifluoromethyl-benzene and 3-hydroxymethyl-phenol. MS  $m/z$  265 (M-OH).

**Step 2. Preparation of 1-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3-chloromethyl-benzene (Compound 6B)**

10



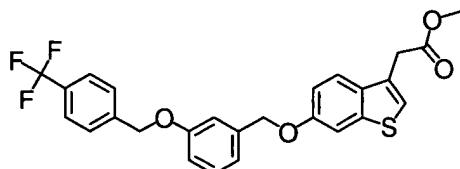
**6B**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **5E** using the product from example **6A**. MS  $m/z$  265 (M-Cl).

15

**Step 3. Preparation of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 6C)**

20



**6C**

The title compound was prepared from compounds **6B** and **5C** in a manner analogous to compound **5F**. MS  $m/z$  487 (M+1).

25

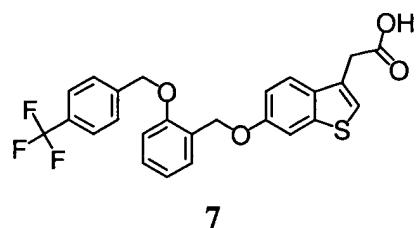
**Step 4. Preparation of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 6)**

The title compound was prepared from compound **6C** in a manner analogous to compound **1**. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.70 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz), 7.59 (m, 3H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.27 (t, 1H,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz), 7.05 (s, 1H), 7.02 (m, 3H), 6.92 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 5.19 (s, 2H), 5.10 (s, 2H), 3.73 (s, 2H); MS  $m/z$  473 (M+1). Anal. 5 Calc'd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{19}\text{F}_3\text{O}_4\text{S}_1 \cdot 0.5 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$  C, 62.36; H, 4.19; found: C, 62.12; H, 3.79.

### Example 7

#### Synthesis of {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 7)

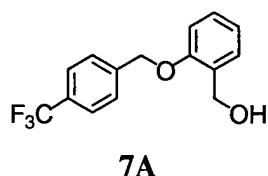
10



7

#### **Step 1. Preparation of [2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-phenyl]-methanol**

15 **(compound 7A)**

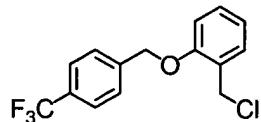


7A

20 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **5D** using 1-bromomethyl-4-trifluoromethyl-benzene and 2-hydroxymethyl-phenol. MS  $m/z$  265 (M-OH).

#### **Step 2. Preparation of 1-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-2-chloromethyl-benzene**

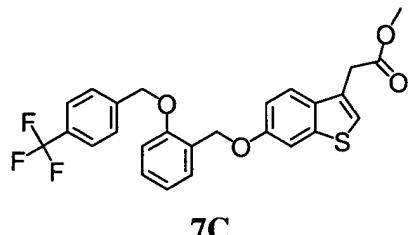
25 **(compound 7B)**



7B

5 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 5E using the  
product from example 7A. MS *m/z* 265 (M-Cl).

**Step 3. Preparation of {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-  
benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 7C)**



10

7C

The title compound was prepared from compounds 7B and 5C in a manner analogous to compound 5F. MS *m/z* 487 (M+1).

15

**Step 4. Preparation of {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-  
benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 7)**

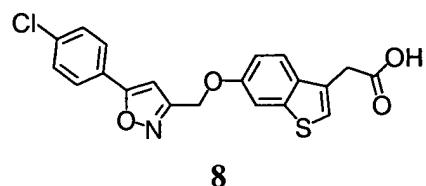
20 The title compound was prepared from compound 7C in a manner analogous to compound 1. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  12.38 (s, (br) 1H), 7.62 (m, 6H), 7.42 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.27 (t, 1H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.04 (m, 2H), 6.94 (t, 1H, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 5.27 (s, 2H), 5.17 (s, 2H), 3.73 (s, 2H); MS *m/z* 473 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>1</sub> C, 63.55; H, 4.05; found: C, 63.29; H, 3.72.

25

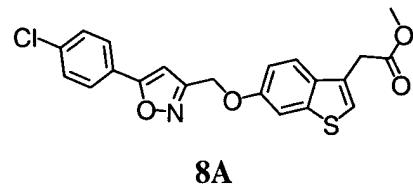
**Example 8**

**Synthesis of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 8)**

5



10



The title compound was prepared from compound 5C and commercially available 3-chloromethyl-5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazole in the manner analogous to example 5F. MS 15 *m/z* 414 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 8)**

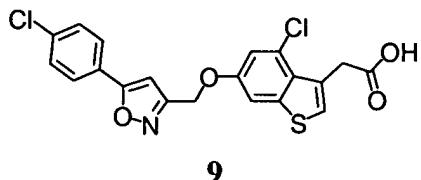
20

The title compound was prepared from compound 8A in a manner analogous to compound 1. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 7.88 (m, 2 H), 7.65 (m, 2 H), 7.56 (m, 2 H), 7.35 (s, 1 H), 7.21 (s, 1 H), 7.09 (dd, *J*=8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1 H), 5.27 (s, 2 H), 3.74 (s, 2 H); MS *m/z* 400 (M+1).

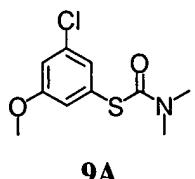
25

**Example 9**

**Synthesis of {4-Chloro-6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 9)**



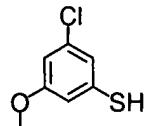
5   **Step 1. Preparation of Dimethyl-thiocarbamic acid S-(3-chloro-5-methoxy-phenyl) ester (compound 9A)**



10

A solution of 3-chloro-5-methoxy-phenol (15.0 g, 94.6 mmol) in 20 mL dry DMF was treated portionwise with NaH (2.7 g of a 95% dispersion in mineral oil, 114 mmol). After 30 min, dimethylthiocarbamoyl chloride (12.9 g, 104 mmol) was added and the reaction stirred at ambient temperature for 3 hours. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo*, the residue taken up in Et<sub>2</sub>O and washed 1x 2 M HCl, 1x brine, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The crude material was run through 200 g SiO<sub>2</sub>, eluting with 1.5 L 30% EtoAc/Hex to give 19.4 g of the intermediate product dimethyl-thiocarbamic acid O-(3-chloro-5-methoxy-phenyl) ester pure enough for subsequent use. MS *m/z* 246 (M+1). The intermediate was then taken up in 50 mL diphenyl ether and added to 60 mL refluxing diphenyl ether. After 50 minutes, reaction was cooled and run through 500 g SiO<sub>2</sub> to remove the diphenyl ether. Subsequent elution with 100% Et<sub>2</sub>O gave 18.7 g of the title compound pure enough for subsequent use. MS *m/z* 246 (M+1).

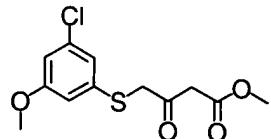
25   **Step 2. Preparation of 3-Chloro-5-methoxy-benzenethiol (compound 9B)**



**9B**

example **9A** (18.7 g, 76.1 mmol) and KOH (381 mmols) in 150 mL 3:1 EtOH/water, heated at reflux for 5H. The reaction was then cooled, concentrated to about 50 mL, taken up in EtOAc and quenched carefully with conc. HCL. The organic layer was then 5 washed 1 x H<sub>2</sub>O, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and solvent removed *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (gradient elution) 5%EtOAc/Hex to 35% EtOAc/Hex gave 9.8 g product. MS *m/z* 173 (M-1)

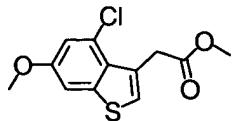
**Step 3. Preparation of 4-(3-Chloro-5-methoxy-phenylsulfanyl)-3-oxo-butyric acid methyl ester (compound 9C)**



**9C**

The title compound was made from example **9B** in a similar manner as described for 15 example **5A**. MS *m/z* 286 (M-1).

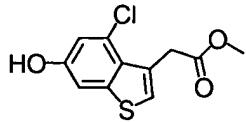
**Step 4. Preparation of (4-Chloro-6-methoxy-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 9D)**



**9D**

The title compound was made from example **9C** in a similar manner as described for 20 example **5B**. MS *m/z* 271 (M+1).

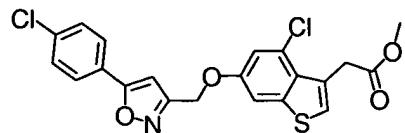
**Step 5. Preparation of (4-Chloro-6-hydroxy-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 9E)**



**9E**

The title compound was made from example **9D** in a similar manner as described for example **5C**. MS *m/z* 255 (M-1).

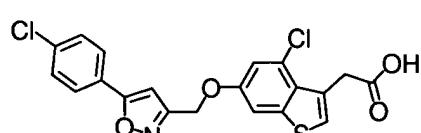
**5 Step 6. Preparation of {4-Chloro-6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 9F)**



**9F**

**10** The title compound was made from example **9E** and commercially available 3-chloromethyl-5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazole in the manner analogous to example **5F**. MS *m/z* 447 (M-1).

**Step 7. Preparation of {4-Chloro-6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 9)**



**9**

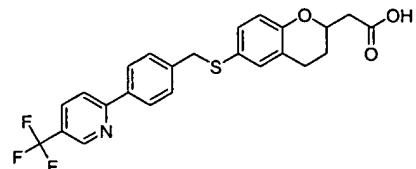
The title compound was made from example **9F** in a manner analogous to example **5**.

**20** 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 3.95 (s, 2 H) 5.30 (s, 2 H) 7.15 (d, *J*=2.20 Hz, 1 H) 7.20 (s, 1 H) 7.44 (s, 1 H) 7.56 (d, *J*=8.79 Hz, 2 H) 7.69 (d, *J*=2.20 Hz, 1 H) 7.87 (d, *J*=8.79 Hz, 2 H). MS *m/z* 433 (M-1).

**Example 10**

**Synthesis of {6-[4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 10)**

5



**10**

**Step 1. Preparation of 5-(2-Hydroxy-5-thiocyanato-phenyl)-pent-2-enoic acid ethyl ester (compound 10A)**

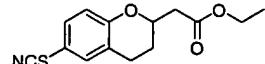


**10A**

15 The title compound was prepared from 5-(2-Hydroxy-phenyl)-pent-2-enoic acid methyl ester in the manner analogous to example 1B. MS  $m/z$  278 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of (6-Thiocyanato-chroman-2-yl)-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 10B)**

20

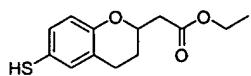


**10B**

The product from example 10A (2.4g, 9.1 mmol) was dissolved in 20 ml acetonitrile. Cesium carbonate (2.97g, 9.12 mmol), was added. The reaction was stirred for 6h followed by filtration through Celite and concentration. The products was purified by 25 MPLC to give a clear, colorless oil. MS  $m/z$  278 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation of (6-Mercapto-chroman-2-yl)-acetic acid ethyl ester  
(compound 10C)**

5



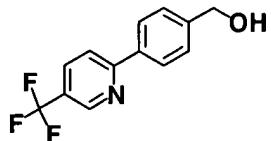
**10C**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1D** using the product from example **10B** MS *m/z* 253 (M+1).

10

**Step 4. Preparation of [4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-phenyl]-methanol  
(compound 10D)**

15



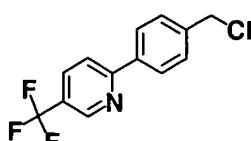
**10D**

The title compound was made in a similar manner as described for example **36D**. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.2 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.4 Hz, *J'* = 8.4 Hz), 8.09 (m, 3H), 7.42 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.54 Hz), 5.23 (t, 1H), 4.54 (d, 2H, *J* = 6 Hz); MS *m/z* 254 (M+1).

20

**Step 5. Preparation of 2-(4-Chloromethyl-phenyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-pyridine  
(compound 10E)**

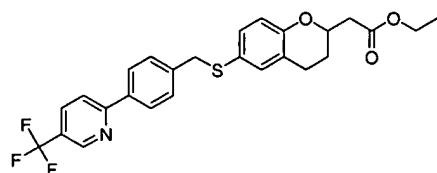
25



**10E**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **5E** using **10D**. MS *m/z* 272 (M+1).

5    **Step 6. Preparation of {6-[4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 10F)**



**10F**

10

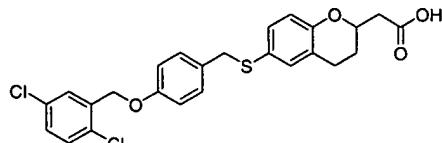
The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1E** using the products from example **10C** and example **10E**. MS *m/z* 488 (M+1).

15    **Step 7. Preparation of {6-[4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 10)**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1** using the product from example **10D** 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.97 (m, 1H), 8.22 (m, 1H), 8.13 (m, 1H), 8.03 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, 2H, *J*=8.5 Hz), 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.59 (d, 1H, *J*=8.5 Hz), 4.27 (m, 1H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 2.71 (m, 1H), 2.53 (m, 3H), 1.94 (m, 1H), 1.60 (m, 1H). MS *m/z* 460 (M+1).

**Example 11**

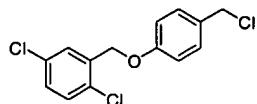
**Synthesis of {6-[4-(2,5-Dichloro-benzyl)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 11)**



25

**11**

**Step 1. Preparation of 1,4-dichloro-2-(4-chloromethyl-phenoxy-methyl)-benzene (compound 11A)**

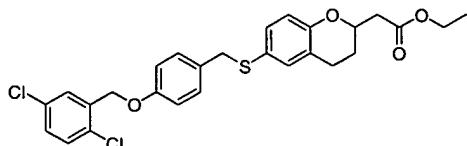


**11A**

5

The title compound was made in a similar manner as described for example 5E. MS *m/z* 265 (M-Cl).

**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[4-(2,5-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 11B)**



**11B**

15 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1E using the products from example 10C and example 11A. MS *m/z* 517 (M).

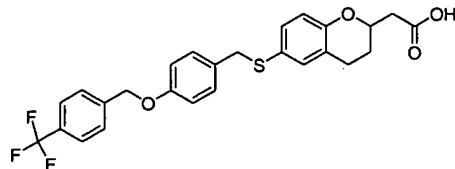
**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[4-(2,5-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 11)**

20 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the product from example 11B. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.60 (d, 1H, *J*=2.2 Hz), 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.14 (m, 2H), 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.89 (m, 2H), 6.58 (d, 1H, *J*=8.5 Hz), 5.06 (s, 2H), 4.28 (m, 1H), 3.98 (s, 2H), 2.71 (m, 1H), 2.55 (m, 3H), 1.94 (m, 1H), 1.60 (m, 1H). MS *m/z* 487 (M-2).

25

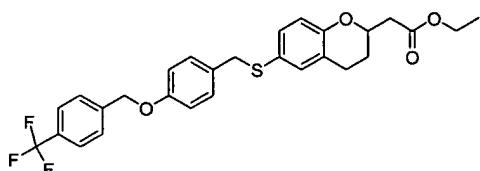
**Example 12**

**Synthesis of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 12)**



12

5 Step 1. Preparation of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 12A)



12A

10

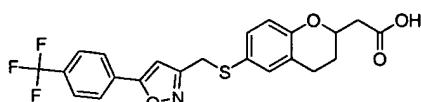
The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1E using the products from example 10C and example 5E. MS *m/z* 515 (M-1).

15 Step 2. Preparation of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 12)

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the product from example 12A. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.32 (br(s), 1H), 7.70 (d, 2H, *J*=8.1 Hz), 7.60 (d, 2H, *J*=8.1 Hz), 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.88 (m, 2H), 6.58 (d, 1H, *J*=8.3 Hz), 5.14 (s, 2H), 4.28 (m, 1H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.71 (m, 1H), 2.55 (m, 3H), 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.58 (m, 1H). MS *m/z* 487 (M-1).

Example 13

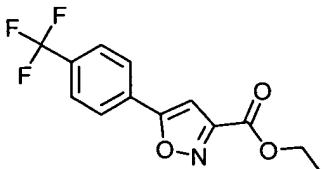
Synthesis of {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 13)}



25

13

**Step 1. Preparation of 5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (compound 13A)**

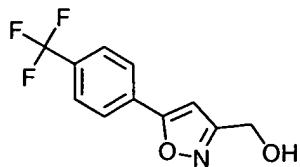


5

13A

Sodium hydride (1.6 g, 63.7 mmol, 95%) was added to a solution of 1-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethanone (10.0 g, 53.1 mmol) and oxalic acid diethyl ester (8.7 mL, 63.7 mmol)  
10 in 75 mL dry DMF at 0 °C. The reaction was allowed to come to room temperature and then heated to 45 °C for 45 minutes. The reaction was then cooled, concentrated in vacuo, and the residue taken up in EtOAc. The organic layer was then washed with 2 M HCl (1 x 100 mL), dried ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) and the solvent removed in vacuo. Purification by flash column chromatography (gradient elution: 5% EtOAc/hexane to 55%  
15 EtOAc/hexane) gave the intermediate 2,4-dioxo-4-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-butyric acid ethyl ester (12.2 g, 80%) which was then taken up in EtOH and refluxed in the presence of hydroxyl amine hydrochloride (10.2 g, 132.3 mmol) for 3H. The reaction was then cooled, diluted with EtOAc, washed with dilute  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , brine, dried ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), and concentrated in vacuo. Recrystallization from EtOAc/hexane gave 5.2 g  
20 of the title compound. MS  $m/z$  286 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of [5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-yl]-methanol (compound 13B)**



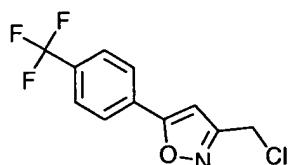
25

13B

A solution of **13A** (14.1g, 49.4 mmol) in 3:1 THF/MeOH, was treated with NaBH<sub>4</sub> (5.6 g, 148 mmol) at ambient temperature. The reaction was then stirred for 3 H, followed by concentrating *in vacuo* to about 50 mL, quenching with 2 M HCl, extract 1 x 150 mL  
5 EtOAC, dry (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrate *in vacuo* to give 11.8 g of the title compound pure enough for subsequent use. MS *m/z* 244 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation of 3-chloromethyl-5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazole (compound 13C)**

10

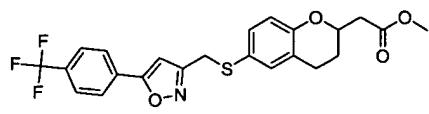


**13C**

The title compound was prepared in a manner analogous to **Example 5E** using **13B**. MS  
15 *m/z* 262 (M+1).

**Step 4. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 13D)**

20



**13D**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1E** using the products from example **10C** and example **13C**. MS *m/z* 464 (M+1).

25

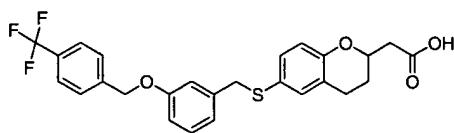
**Step 5. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 13)**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1** using the product from example **13D**. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.33 (br(s), 1H), 8.01 (d, 2H,  $J$ =8.8 Hz), 7.84 (d, 2H,  $J$ =8.8 Hz), 7.12 (s, 1H), (7.11 (m, 1H), 7.05 (dd, 1H,  $J$ =2.4 Hz,  $J'$ =8.5 Hz), 6.61 (d, 1H,  $J$ =8.5 Hz), 4.28 (m, 1H), 4.12 (s, 2H), 2.73 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.55 (m, 2H), 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.60 (m, 1H). MS  $m/z$  450 (M+1).

**Example 14**

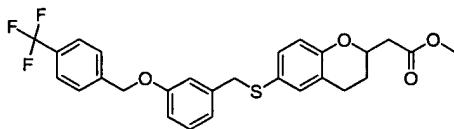
**Synthesis of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 14)**

10



**14**

15 **Step 1. Preparation of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 14A)**



**14A**

20

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1E** using the products from example **10C** and example **6B**. MS  $m/z$  503 (M+1).

25 **Step 2. Preparation of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-chroman-2-yl}-acetic acid (compound 14)**

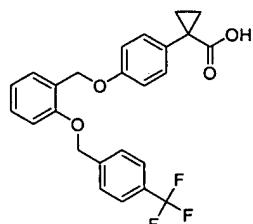
The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1** using the product from example **14A**. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.33 (br(s), 1H), 7.71 (d,

2H,  $J=8.1$  Hz), 7.59 (d, 2H,  $J=8.1$  Hz), 7.14 (t, 1H,  $J=8.1$  Hz), 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.81 (m, 3H), 6.58 (d, 1H,  $J=8.3$  Hz), 5.11 (s, 2H), 4.26 (m, 1H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.68 (1H), 2.55 (m, 3H), 1.94 (m, 1H), 1.59 (m, 1H). MS  $m/z$  489 (M+1).

5

### Example 15

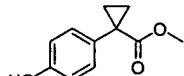
## Synthesis of 1-[4-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-phenyl]-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 15)



10

15

#### **Step 1. Preparation of 1-(4-Hydroxy-phenyl)-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 15A)**

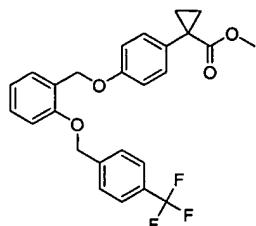


15A

1-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (2.08 g, 10.1 mmol) was dissolved in 25 ml DCM and cooled over an ice bath to ca. 5 deg. C. BBr<sub>3</sub> (3.03 g, 12.01 mmol) was added followed by stirring for 2h. 25 ml 2N HCl was added followed by stirring for 10 minutes. The DCM layer was separated, dried over sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated. 100 MeOH and 5 drops conc. sulfuric acid were added followed by heating at 50 deg. C for 2 days. The reaction was concentrated, dissolved in 50 ml ethyl acetate, washed 1x20 ml brine, dried over sodium sulfate, decanted, and concentrated. MPLC gave the desired phenol as a clear colorless oil. MS *m/z* 193 (M+1).

**Step 2. 1-{4-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 15B)**

5



**15B**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1E** using the products from example **15A** and example **7B**. MS *m/z* 457 (M+1).

10

**Step 3. Preparation of 1-{4-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 15)**

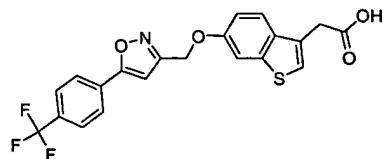
15 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1** using the product from example **15B** 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.16 (br(s), 1H), 7.65 (m, 4H), 7.35 (dd, 1H, *J*=1.7 Hz, *J'*=7.56), 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.05 (d, 1H, *J*=8.05), 6.93 (m, 1H), 6.86 (m, 2H), 6.26 (s, 2H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 1.35 (m, 2H), 1.01 (m, 2H). MS *m/z* 441 (M-1).

20

**Example 16**

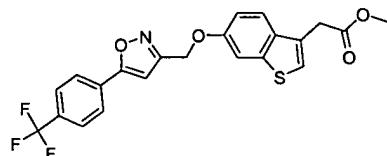
**Synthesis of {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 16)**

25



**16**

5      **Step 1. Preparation of {{6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 16A)}**



**16A**

10     The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1E** using the product from example **5C** and the product from example **13C**. MS *m/z* 448 (M+1).

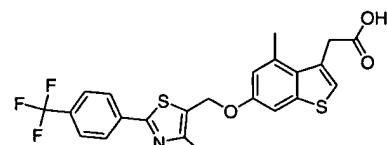
15      **Step 2. Preparation of {{6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 16)}**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1** using the product from example **16A**. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.40 (br(s), 1H), 8.09 (d, 2H, J=8.3 Hz), 7.86 (d, 2H, J=8.3 Hz), 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.10 (dd, 1H, J=2.44, J'=8.8 Hz), 5.30 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 2H). MS *m/z* 434 (M+1).

20

**Example 17**

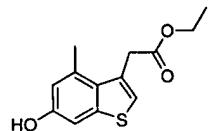
**Synthesis of {4-Methyl-6-[4-methyl-2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-5-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 17)**



**17**

25

**Step 1. Preparation of (6-Hydroxy-4-methyl-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 17A)**

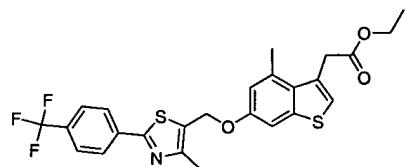


5                   **17A**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 5C starting with 3  
3-methoxy-5-methyl-benzenethiol and the 4-chloro-3-oxo-butyric acid ethyl ester. MS  
*m/z* 251 (M+1).

10

**Step 2. Preparation of {4-Methyl-6-[4-methyl-2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-  
5-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 17B)**



15                   **17B**

15

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1E using 3-  
chloromethyl-5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazole and the product from example 17A

20

MS *m/z* 506 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation of {4-Methyl-6-[4-methyl-2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-  
5-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 17)**

25

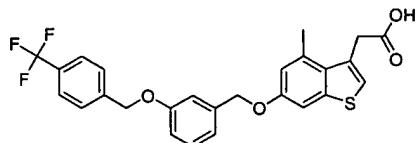
The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the  
product from example 17B 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.40 (br(s), 1H), 8.06 (d,  
2H, J=8.19), 7.78 (d, 2H, J=8.19 Hz), 7.47 (d, 1H, J=2.34 Hz), 7.26 (s, 1H), 6.80 (dd, 1H,

$J=2.44$  Hz,  $J'=0.88$  Hz), 5.34 (s, 2H), 3.91 (s, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H). MS  $m/z$  478 (M+1).

### Example 18

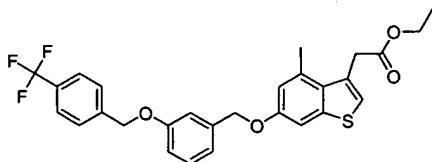
## Synthesis of {4-Methyl-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-

### 5 benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 18)



18

**10 Step 1. Preparation of {4-Methyl-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 18A)**



15

18A

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1E** using the products from example **17A** and example **6B**. MS *m/z* 515 (M+1).

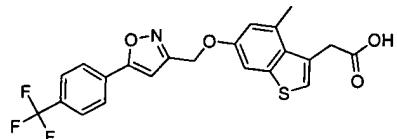
**20 Step 2. Preparation of {{4-Methyl-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 18)}**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the product from example 18A. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.39 (br(s), 1H), 7.70 (d, 2H,  $J=8.05$  Hz), 7.62 (d, 2H,  $J=8.05$  Hz), 7.37 (d, 1H, 2.20 Hz), 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.07 (m, 1H), 7.00 (d, 1H,  $J=8.06$  Hz), 6.92 (m, 1H), 6.78 (m, 1H), 5.19 (s, 3H), 5.07 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H). MS  $m/z$  487 (M+1).

**Example 19**

**Synthesis of {4-Methyl-6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 19)**

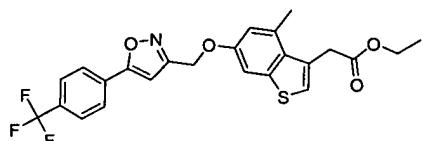
5



**19**

**Step 1. Preparation of {4-Methyl-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzylloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 19A)**

10



**19A**

15 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1E using the products from example 17A and example 13C. MS *m/z* 476 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of {4-Methyl-6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 19)**

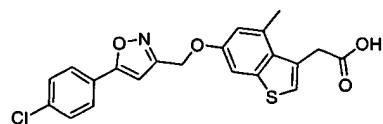
20

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the product from example 19A. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.46 (d, 1H, J=1.95 Hz), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 3.91 (s, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H). MS *m/z* 448 (M+1).

25

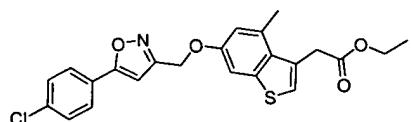
**Example 20**

**Synthesis of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 20)**



**20**

Step 1. Preparation of { {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-5 benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound 20A)}



**20A**

10

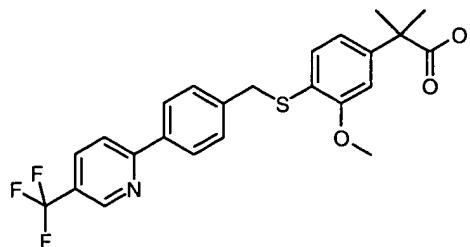
The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1E using the products from example 17A and commercially available 3-chloromethyl-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-isoxazole. MS *m/z* 442 (M).

15 Step 2. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-4-methyl-20 benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 20)

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the product from example 20A. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 2.6 (s, 3 H) 3.9 (s, 2 H) 5.3 (s, 2 H) 6.8 (m, 1 H) 7.3 (s, 1 H) 7.3 (s, 1 H) 7.5 (d, *J*=2.2 Hz, 1 H) 7.9 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 2 H) 8.1 (d, *J*=8.1 Hz, 2 H) 12.4 (s, 1 H). MS *m/z* 414 (M+1).

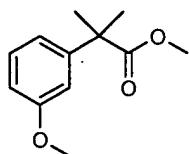
### Example 21

25 Synthesis of 2-{3-Methoxy-4-[4-(5-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-2-methyl-propionic acid (compound 21)



21

Step 1. Preparation of 2-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester  
5 (compound 21A)



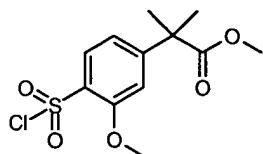
21A

10 3-Methoxy phenyl acetic acid (10g, 60 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (100mL) and was then treated with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (5 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed overnight. MeOH was evaporated and the residue was diluted with water and ether. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether (2x30 mL). The combined organics were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and condensed to afford the product in quantitative yield (10.91g ) as a light yellow oil. MS *m/z* 181 (M+1).

15

To a suspension of NaH (3.66g, 91.5 mmol) in THF (75 mL) was added a solution of the above ester (5.5g, 30.5 mmol) in THF (25 mL) followed by dropwise addition of methyl iodide (10.4g, 73.2 mmol). The mixture was stirred at RT overnight. The solids were 20 filtered from the reaction mixture and the filtrate evaporated to give a clear oil as the desired product (4.6g, 72%). MS *m/z* 209 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of 2-(4-Chlorosulfonyl-3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester (compound 21B).**



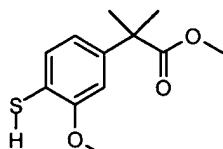
**21B**

5

Chlorosulfonic acid (11.5 mL) was cooled to 0°C. Then compound **21A** (4.6g, 22 mmol) was added over 15 min. The mixture was stirred at RT for 3h and then poured into ice (100g). The cloudy solution was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2x50 mL). The extracts were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give a purple oil which was passed through a short pad of silica gel to afford the desired product **21B** (2.43g 36%) as an orange oil. MS *m/z* 271 (M-Cl).

10

**Step 3. Preparation of 2-(4-Mercapto-3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-methyl propionic acid methyl ester (compound 21C)**



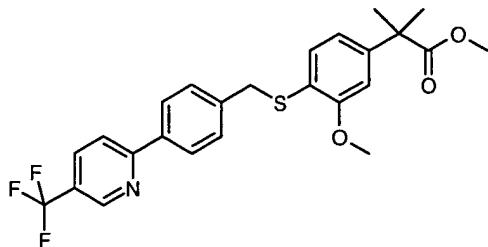
**21C**

15

The product from example **21B** (2.43g, 7.92 mmol) was refluxed with tin powder (4.7g, 39.6 mmol) in MeOH (40 mL) and 4M HCL/dioxane (40 mL). After 3h, the reaction mixture was poured into ice with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL). The phases were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2x50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried with magnesium sulfate, filtered and evaporated to give the thiol compound **21C** as a yellow oil (1.82g, 96%). MS *m/z* 239 (M-1).

20

**Step 4. Preparation of 2-{3-Methoxy-4-[4-(5-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester (compound 21D)**



**21D**

5

The product from example **21C** (264 mg, 1.1 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (15 mL) with **10E** (271 mg, 1.0 mmol) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (720 mg, 2.2 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 3h. Ether (15 mL) and water were added and the stirring was continued for another 5 min. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether (2x15 mL). The combined organics were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to tan solids. The crude product was purified by column chromatography eluted with EtOAc and hexanes to give the desired product, compound **1D**, as white solid (150 mg, 32%); MS *m/z* 476 (M+1).

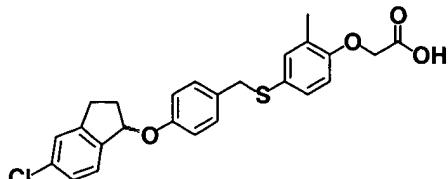
15    **Step 5. Preparation of 2-{3-Methoxy-4-[4-(5-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-2-methyl-propionic acid (compound 21)**

To the solution of the above methyl ester, compound **21D** (0.15g, 0.32 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) was added LiOH.H<sub>2</sub>O (80 mg, 1.89 mmol). After refluxing for 3h, the solution 20 was cooled to RT and solvents were removed by rotovap. The residue was dissolved in water and neutralized with 1N HCl. The cloudy solution was extracted with ether (2x25 mL) and the extracts were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> then concentrated to white solids. The solids were further washed with ether and then dried to yield the desired product as white 25 solids (52 mg, 36%). MS *m/z* 462 (M+1). Anal Calc'd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SF<sub>3</sub>. C 62.46, H 4.80, N 3.03, found C 62.23, H 4.84, N 2.80.

**Example 22**

**Synthesis of {4-[4-(5-Chloro-indan-1-yloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (compound 2)**

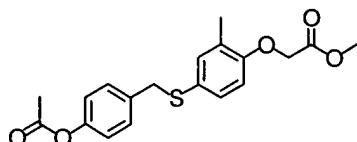
5



22

**Step 1. Preparation of [4-(4-Acetoxy-benzylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 22A)**

10

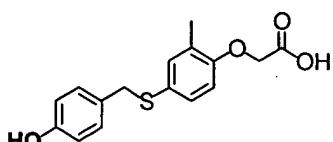


22A

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1E using acetic acid 4-chloromethyl-phenyl ester and the product from example TB. MS  $m/z$  361 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of [4-(4-Hydroxy-benzylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid (compound 22B)**

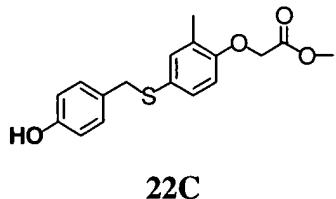
20



22B

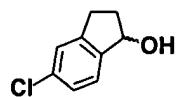
The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the product from example 22A. MS *m/z* 303 (M-1).

5      **Step 3. Preparation of [4-(4-Hydroxy-benzylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 22C)**



10     To a solution of the product from example 22B (3.0 g, 9.8 mmol) in 98 mL of 2,2-dimethoxy propane was added 9.8 mL of concentrated hydrochloric acid. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was evaporated to give a residue, which was dissolved in a mixture of 50 mL of water and 50 mL of ethyl acetate. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 50 mL) and 15    then the organic layers were combined and washed with 5% sodium bicarbonate (3 x 50 mL), followed with 50 mL of brine. The organic layer was separated, dried (sodium sulfate), filtered, and evaporated to give a brown residue. The residue was flash chromatography (silica gel, 30% ethyl acetate in hexane) to provide semi-pure product, which was triturated in 30% ethyl acetate in hexane to afford the title compound. MS *m/z* 20    317 (M-1).

25      **Step 4. Preparation of 5-Chloro-indan-1-ol (compound 22D)**

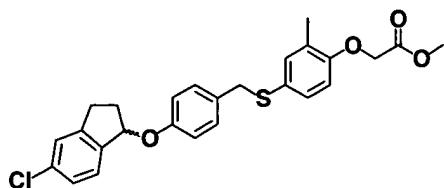


To a precooled (5-10 °C) solution of 5-chloro-indan-1-one (2.0 g, 12 mmoles) in 33 mL of anhydrous methanol was added sodium borohydride (0.43 g, 11 mmoles). The

reaction mixture was stirred at 10 °C for 2 hrs and then at room temperature for 18 hrs. The reaction mixture was evaporated to afford a yellow residue. The residue was dissolved in 200 mL of diethyl ether and then washed with water (2 x 100 mL), with 0.10 N hydrochloric acid (2 x 100 mL), and then with brine (100 mL). The organic layer was 5 separated, dried (sodium sulfate), filtered, and the filtrate was evaporated to provide the title compound in good purity. MS *m/z* 167 (M-1).

**Step 5. Preparation of {4-[4-(5-Chloro-indan-1-yloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 22E)**

10



**22E**

The products from example 22C (0.60 g, 1.9 mmoles) and example 22D (0.35 g, 2.1 15 mmoles), triphenyl phosphine (0.60 g, 2.3 mmoles), and 0.36 mL of diethyl azodicarboxylate (0.40 g, 2.3 mmoles) were dissolved in 13 mL of tetrahydrofuran. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under nitrogen for 3 d. The reaction mixture was evaporated to give a residue, which was flash chromatographed (silica gel, 20% ethyl acetate in hexane) to afford the title compound in good purity. MS *m/z* 469 20 (M+1).

**Step 6. Preparation of {4-[4-(5-Chloro-indan-1-yloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (compound 22)**

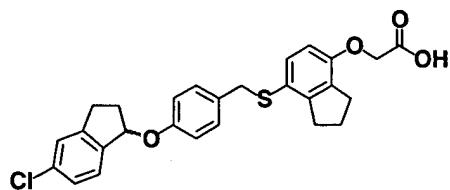
25 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the product from example 22E. mp 130-131 °C; IR (KBr) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3070, 3034, 1750, 1494, 1229, 1194; 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.96 (br(s), 1H), 7.28-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.04-7.25 (m, 5H), 6.85-6.92 (m, 2H), 6.70 (d, 1H, J = 8.5 Hz), 5.69-5.78 (m, 1H), 4.62

(s, 2H), 4.02 (s, 2H), 2.91-3.04 (m, 1H), 2.76-2.88 (m, 1H), 2.39-2.55 (m, 1H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.89-2.02 (m, 1H); MS *m/z* 453 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub>S: C, 66.00; H, 5.10; found: C, 65.79; H, 4.91.

5

**Example 23**

**Synthesis of {7-[4-(5-Chloro-indan-1-yloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid (compound 23)**

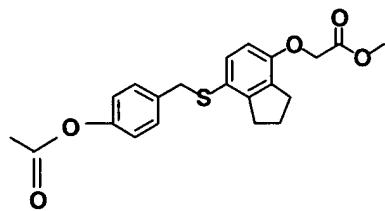


10

**23**

**Step 1. Preparation of [7-(4-Acetoxy-benzylsulfanyl)-indan-4-yloxy]-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 23A)**

15

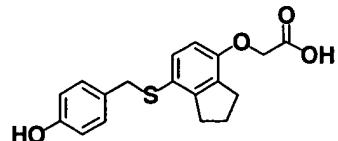


**23A**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 22A using acetic acid 4-chloromethyl-phenyl ester and the product from example 1D. MS *m/z* 387 (M+1).

20

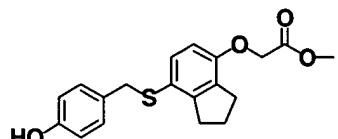
**Step 2. Preparation of [7-(4-Hydroxy-benzylsulfanyl)-indan-4-yloxy]-acetic acid (compound 3B)**



23B

5 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 22B using the product from example 23A. MS *m/z* 391 (M-1).

**Step 3. Preparation of [7-(4-Hydroxy-benzylsulfanyl)-indan-4-yloxy]-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 23C)**

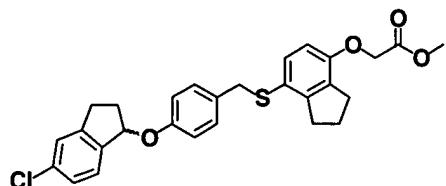


10 23C

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 22C using the product from example 23B. MS *m/z* 237 (M-107).

15

**Step 4. Preparation of {7-[4-(5-Chloro-indan-1-yloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 23D)**



20 23D

The title compound was prepared in a manner analogous to example 22E using the products from example 22D and example 23C. MS *m/z* 495 (M+1).

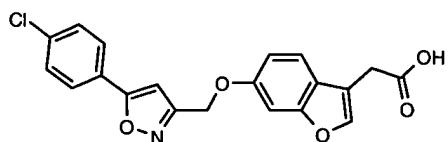
**Step 5. Preparation of {7-[4-(5-Chloro-indan-1-yloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid (compound 23)**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 1 using the  
5 product from example 23D. mp 169-170 °C; IR (KBr)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3030, 1739, 1713, 1505,  
1474, 1244; 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.95 (br(s), 1H), 7.28-7.37 (m, 2H),  
7.19-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.03-7.16 (m, 3H), 6.84-6.92 (m, 2H), 6.58 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 5.71-  
5.77 (m, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.92-3.03 (m, 1H), 2.79-2.88 (m, 1H), 2.76 (t,  
2H,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 2.69 (t, 2H, 7.5 Hz), 2.41-2.56 (m, 1H), 1.84-2.01 (m, 3H); HPLC: area  
10 % = 92.78, r.t. = 6.078 min.,  $\lambda$  = 214 nm, mobile phase = acetonitrile/water with 0.10%  
TFA; MS  $m/z$  481 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClO}_4\text{S}$ : C, 67.42; H, 5.24; found: C,  
66.58; H, 4.93.

**Example 24**

15

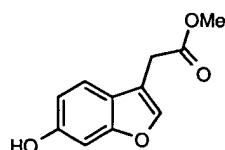
**Synthesis of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 24)**



20

**Step 1. Preparation of (6-Hydroxy-benzofuran-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 24A)**

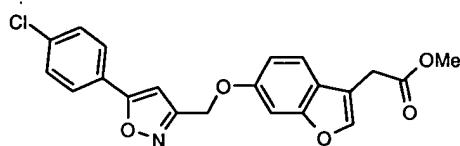
25



A solution (6-hydroxy-benzofuran-3-yl)-acetic acid (Fall Y., et al., *Heterocycles*, 1995; 41:647; 4.1 g, 21.0 mmol) in 50 ml of tetrahydrofuran was treated with lithium hydroxide monohydrate (0.90 g, 21 mmol), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes. Dimethyl sulfate (2.1 ml; 2.8 g, 22 mmol) was added, and the mixture was  
5 stirred at reflux for 3 hours. The bulk of the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was partitioned between 200 ml of ethyl acetate and 150 ml of 5% aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution. The layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with fresh ethyl acetate (2x100 ml). The combined organic layers were back-washed with brine (2x200 ml), then dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated. The  
10 crude product was purified by normal phase chromatography. mp 75-79 °C; MS *m/z* 206 (M).

**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 24B)**

15



**24B**

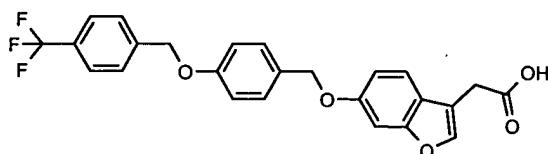
A solution of (6-hydroxy-benzofuran-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (0.41 g, 2.0 mmol) and commercially available 3-(chloromethyl)-5-(4-chlorophenyl)isoxazole (0.46 g, 2.0 mmol) were combined in 15 ml of acetonitrile. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 64 hours and filtered. The insoluble material was washed on the funnel several times with fresh acetonitrile. The bulk of the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was partitioned between 200 ml of ethyl acetate and 150 ml of brine. The layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with fresh ethyl acetate (2x100 ml).  
20 The combined organic layers were back-washed with brine (2x150 ml), then dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated. The crude product was purified by normal phase chromatography. mp 136-137 °C; MS *m/z* 397 (M-1).  
25

**Step 3. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 24)**

A solution of {6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (0.20 g, 0.50 mmol) in 8.0 ml of tetrahydrofuran was treated with lithium hydroxide monohydrate (0.10 g, 2.4 mmol), followed by 2.5 ml of water. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours and added to 75 ml of water. The solution was made strongly acidic by the addition of 4.0 N hydrochloric acid. The precipitated product was extracted with ethyl acetate (4x75 ml). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (2x150 ml), then dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated to a white solid. The crude product was recrystallized from aqueous acetonitrile. mp 193-194 °C; IR (thin film)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 1716, 1611, 1434, 1288, 1224, 1146; 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.39 (br s, 1H), 7.87 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz), 7.44 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz), 7.28 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 7.19 (s, 1H), 6.93-6.96 (m, 1H), 5.24 (2, 2H), 3.59 (s, 2H); MS  $m/z$  382 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClNO}_5$ : C, 62.59; H, 3.68; N, 3.65; found: C, 62.87; H, 3.67; N, 3.61.

**Example 25**

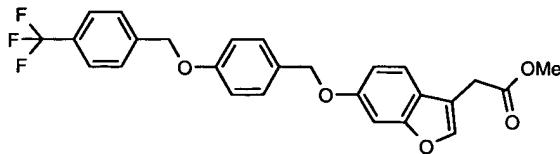
20 **Synthesis of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 25)**



25

25

**Step 1. Preparation of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 25A)**



**25A**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1E** using (6-hydroxy-benzofuran-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (example **24A**) and 1-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-4-chloromethyl-benzene (example **5E**). MS *m/z* 471 (M+1).

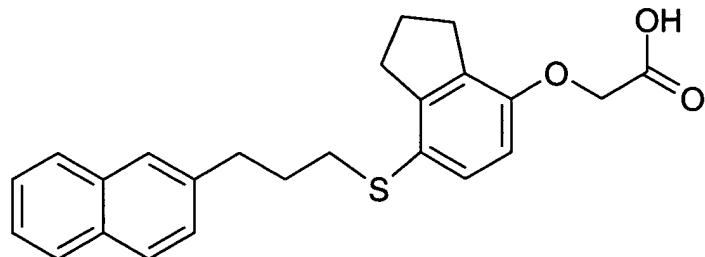
**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 25)**

10 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **1** using {6-[4-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester and lithium hydroxide. mp 161-163 °C; IR (thin film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1715, 1514, 1331, 1226, 1119, 1069; 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.38 (br s, 1H), 7.68-7.72 (m, 3H), 7.61 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.29-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, 1H, J = 2.2 Hz), 6.96-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.87-6.89 (m, 1H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 3.58 (s, 2H); MS *m/z* 455 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for: C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 65.79; H, 4.20; found: C, 65.54; H, 4.02.

15

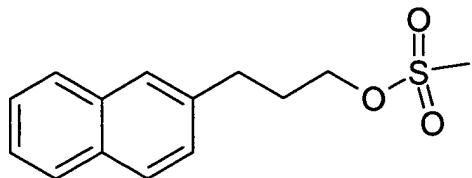
**Example 26**

20 **Synthesis of [7-(3-naphthalen-2-yl-propylsulfanyl)-indan-4-yloxy]-acetic acid (compound 26)**



**26**

**Step 1. Preparation of Methanesulfonic acid 3-naphthalen-2-yl-propyl ester  
(compound 26A)**



**26A**

3-Naphthalen-2-yl-propan-1-ol (0.708g, 3.8 mmol) was dissolved in 25.3mL

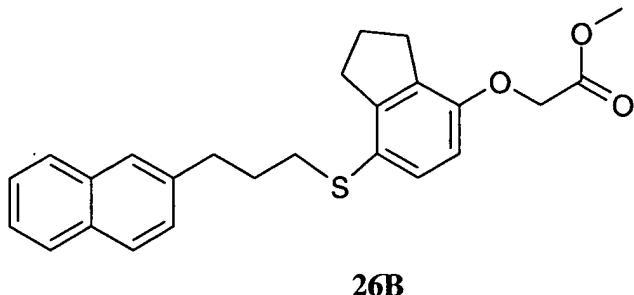
5 dichloromethane. Morpholinomethyl polystyrene HL resin (2.8g, 4.0 mmol/g, 11.6 mmol) and methane sulfonyl chloride (0.9mL, 11.6 mmol) were added to the alcohol solution. The slurry was shaken at ambient temperature for 16H. The reaction was filtered, washing the solids well with dichloromethane. The filtrate was concentrated. The resulting crude product was dissolved in ethyl acetate and washed with a 50%  
10 sodium bicarbonate solution, brine, and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The resulting solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and used for the next step without further purification. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.80 (m, 3H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.32 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8, 2\text{Hz}$ ), 4.26 (t, 2H,  $J = 6\text{Hz}$ ), 2.98 (s, 3H), 2.92 (t, 2H,  $J = 8\text{Hz}$ ), 2.18 (m, 2H).

15

20

25

**Step 2. Preparation of [7-(3-naphthalen-2-yl-propylsulfanyl)-indan-4-yloxy]-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 26B)**



5

The product from example **26A** (0.256g, 0.973 mmol) was dissolved in 6.5mL anhydrous acetonitrile. (7-Mercapto-indan-4-yloxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (example **1D**) (0.232g, 0.973 mmol) was dissolved in 6.5mL anhydrous acetonitrile and added to the activated

10 alcohol solution. Cesium carbonate (0.760g, 2.34 mmol) was added and the reaction was shaken at 60°C for 3.5H, followed by 16H of shaking at ambient temperature. The reaction was filtered, washing solids well with acetonitrile. The solvent was removed under a stream of nitrogen and the crude product was used in the next step without further purification. MS *m/z* 406.1 (M+1).

15

**Step 3. Preparation of [7-(3-naphthalen-2-yl-propylsulfanyl)-indan-4-yloxy]-acetic acid (compound 26)**

The product from example **26B** was dissolved in 24mL of a 0.5M solution of LiOH in 4:1

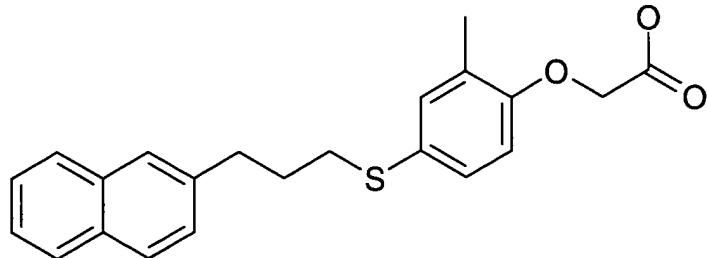
20 methoxyethanol:water. The solution was heated at 60°C for 3H. The reaction was cooled and ~10mL 1N HCL was added to attain a solution pH of 7. 10mL of brine was added to the reaction. The crude product was extracted with ethyl acetate (2x35mL). The reaction was submitted to reverse phase HPLC purification. LCMS *m/z* 393.1 (M+1), 3.64min.

25

**Example 27**

**Synthesis of [2-Methyl-4-(3-naphthalen-2-yl-propylsulfanyl)- phenoxy]-acetic acid  
(compound 27)**

5



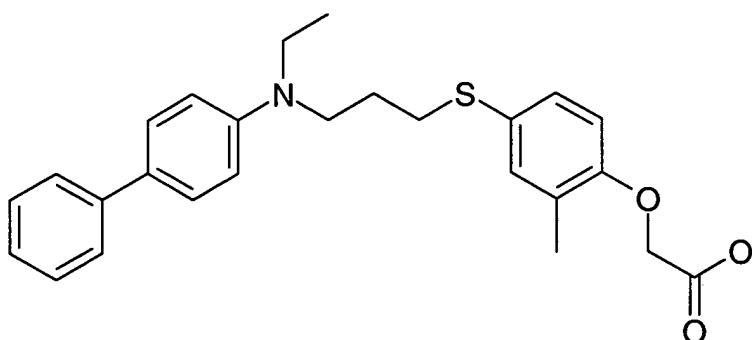
**27**

Compound 27 was made in a similar manner as described for compound 26. LCMS *m/z* 365.1 (M-1), 3.47min.

10

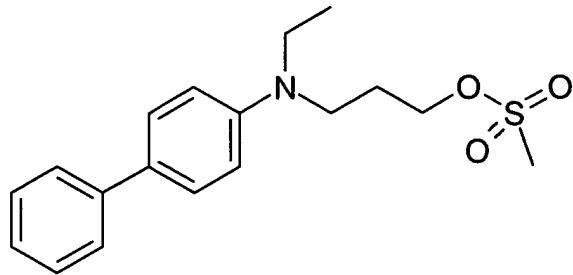
**Example 28**

**Synthesis of {4-[3-(Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]- 2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (compound 28)**



**28**

**Step 1. Preparation of Methanesulfonic acid 3-(biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-propyl ester (Compound 28A)**

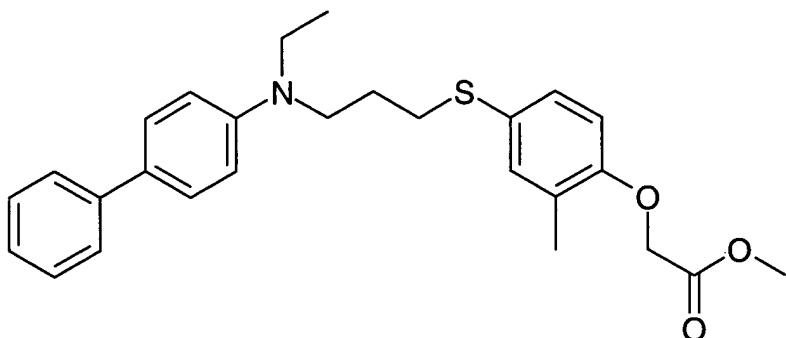


**28A**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **26A**. 400 MHz  
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.53(m,2H), 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.25 (m,1H), 6.77 (br(d),  
2H, J = 6.5Hz), 4.32 (t, 1H, J = 6Hz), 3.61(t, 1H, J = 3.2Hz), 3.48 (m, 2H), 3.43 (m, 2H),  
5 3.01, (s, 2H), 2.09 (m, 2H), 1.20 (m, 3H).

**Step 2. Preparation of {4-[3-(Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 28B)**

10



**28B**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **26B** using the  
product from example **28A** and 4-mercaptop-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester  
15 (example **TB**). MS m/z 450.1 (M+1)

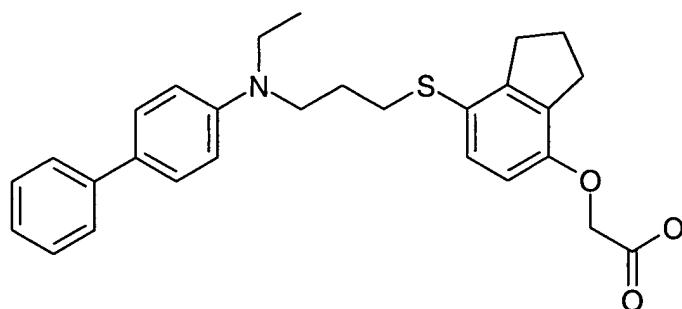
**Step 3. Preparation of {4-[3-(Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]- 2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 28)**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **26** using the product from example **28B**. LCMS *m/z* 436.2 (M+1), 3.33min

5

**Example 29**

Synthesis of {7-[3-Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]- indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid (compound 29)

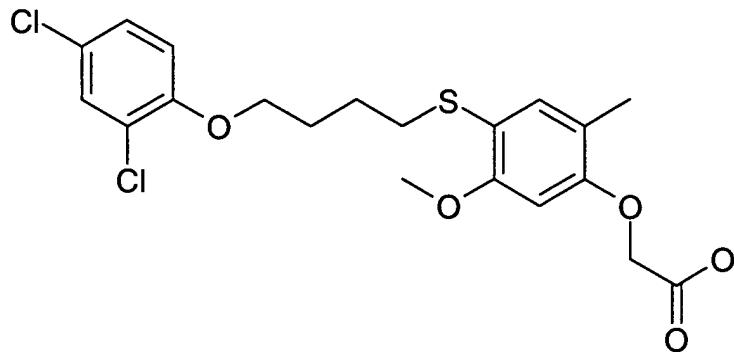


**29**

10 Compound **29** was prepared in a similar manner as described for compound **28**. LCMS *m/z* 462.3 (M+1), 3.59min

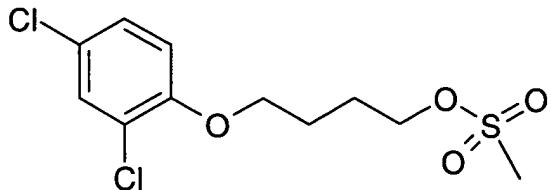
**Example 30**

15 Synthesis of {4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-butylsulfanyl]- 5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (compound 30)



**30**

**Step 1. Preparation of Methanesulfonic acid 4-(2,4-dichloro-phenoxy)-butyl ester  
(Compound 30A)**

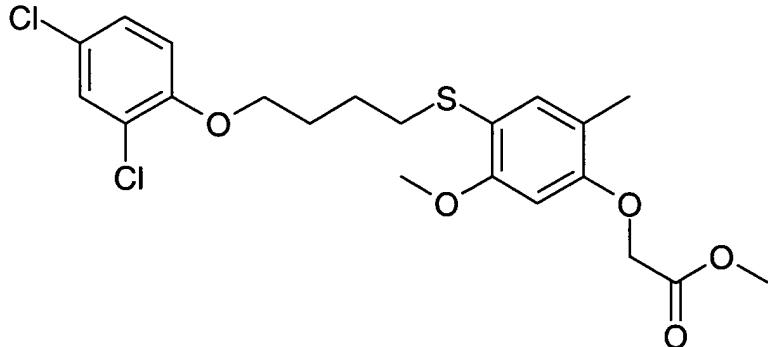


5

**30A**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **26A**. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.35 (d, 1H,  $J = 2.5\text{Hz}$ ), 7.17 (dd, 1H,  $J = 9, 2.5\text{ Hz}$ ), 6.82 (d, 1H,  $J = 9\text{ Hz}$ ), 4.34 (t, 2H  $J = 6\text{Hz}$ ), 4.04 (t, 2H,  $J = 6\text{Hz}$ ), 3.01 (s, 3H), 1.99 (m, 4H).

10 **Step 2. Preparation of {4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-butylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 30B)**



**30B**

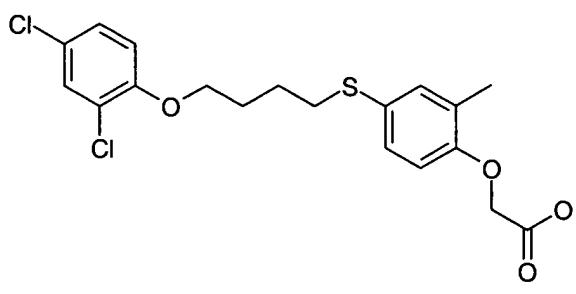
15 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **26B** using the product from example **30A** and (4-mercaptop-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (example **TA**). MS  $m/z$  459.0 (M+1)

**Step 3. Preparation of {4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-butylsulfanyl]- 5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 30)**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **26** using the product from example **30B**. LCMS  $m/z$  444.1 (M+1), 3.47min

**Example 31**

5    Synthesis of {4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-butylsulfanyl]- 2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 31)

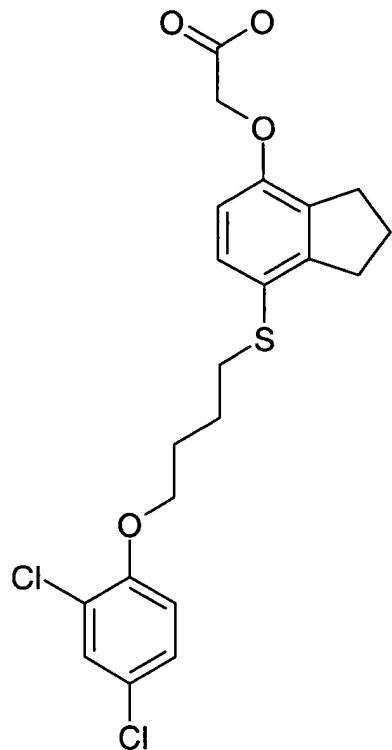


**31**

Compound 31 was prepared in a similar manner as described for compound 30. LCMS  
10     $m/z$  414.05 (M+1), 3.52min

**Example 32**

Synthesis of {7-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-butylsulfanyl]- indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid (compound 32)



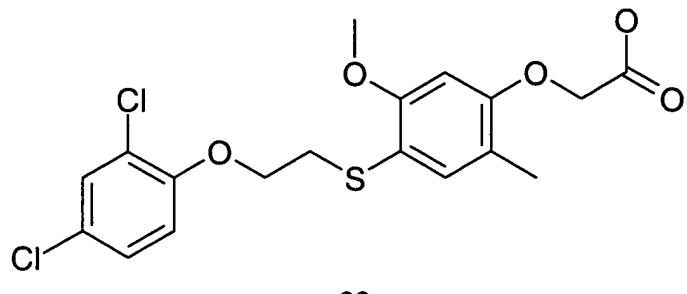
32

Compound 32 was prepared in a similar manner as described for compound 30. LCMS  
*m/z* 440.0 (M-1), 3.67min

5

### Example 33

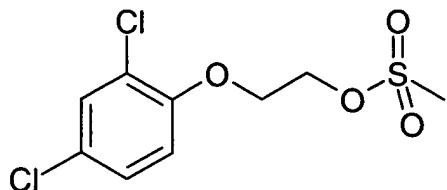
#### Synthesis of {4-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]- 5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (compound 33)



33

10

#### **Step 1. Preparation of Methanesulfonic acid 2-(2,4-dichloro-phenoxy)-ethyl ester (compound 33A)**

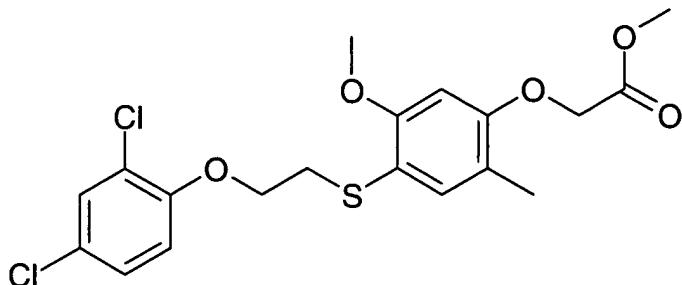


33A

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 26A. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.20 (dd, 1H, J = 9, 2.5 Hz), 6.86 (d, 1H, J = 9Hz), 4.60 (m, 2H), 4.27 (m, 2H), 3.13 (s, 3H).

5

**Step 2. Preparation of {4-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 33B)**



33B

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 26B using the  
10 product from example 33A and (4-mercaptop-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid  
methyl ester (example TB). MS *m/z* 429.9 (M+1)

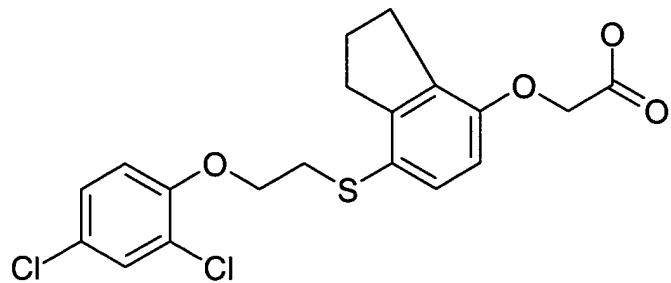
**Step 3. Preparation of {4-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]- 5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (compound 33)**

15 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 26 using the  
product from example 33B. LCMS *m/z* 415.0 (M-1), 3.30min

**Example 34**

**Synthesis of {7-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]- indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid (compound 34)**

20



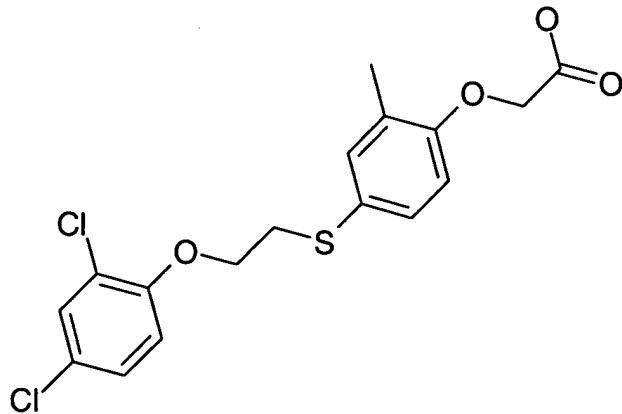
**34**

Compound **34** was made in a similar manner as described for compound **33**. LCMS *m/z* 411.0 (M-1), 3.49min

5

**Example 35**

**Synthesis of {4-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]- 2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (compound 35)**



**35**

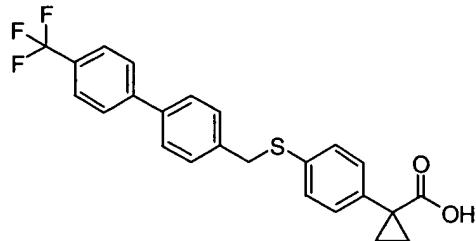
10

Compound **35** was made in a similar manner as described for compound **33**. LCMS *m/z* 385.0 (M-1), 3.33min

**Example 36**

**Synthesis of 1-[4-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenyl]-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 36)**

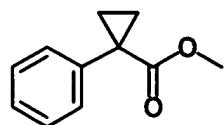
15



36

**Step 1. Preparation of 1-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 36A)**

5

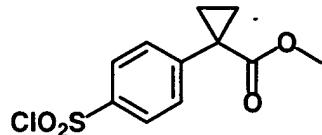


36A

1-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (5g, 30.86 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (100 mL) and was then treated with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (2 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed overnight. MeOH was evaporated and the residue was diluted with water and ether. Layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether (2x30mL). The combined organics were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and condensed to afford the product (5.3g, 97%) as white crystals. MS: 177 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>

15

**Step 2. Preparation of 1-(4-Chlorosulfonyl-phenyl)-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 36B)**



36B

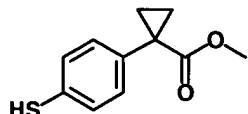
20

Chlorosulfonic acid (10 mL) was cooled to 0°C. Then compound 36A (6.80g, 38.6 mmol) was added over 30 min. The mixture was stirred at RT for 3h and was poured into ice

(~500g). The cloudy solution was extracted with ether (2x200mL). The extracts were dried with magnesium sulfate and concentrated to give a brown oil which was passed through a short pad of silica gel to afford the desired product **36B** (6.05g, 57%) as white plates. MS: 239 (M-Cl)<sup>+</sup>.

5

**Step 3. Preparation of 1-(4-Mercapto-phenyl)-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 36C)**



10

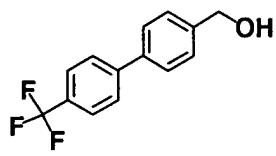
**36C**

The above product **36B** (1.0g, 3.64 mmol) was refluxed with tin powder (2.2g, 18.8 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) and 4M HCl/dioxane (10 mL). After 3h, the reaction mixture was poured into ice with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL). The phases were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2x50mL). The combined organic layers were dried with magnesium sulfate, filtered and evaporated to give the thiol compound **36C** as a yellow oil (650 mg, 86%). MS: 207 (M-1)<sup>+</sup>

15

**Step 4. Preparation of (4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-yl)-methanol (compound 36D)**

20

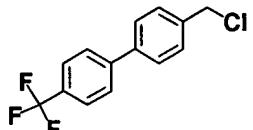
**36D**

25

1-Bromo-4-trifluoromethyl-benzene (814 mg, 3.62 mmol), 4-hydroxymethylphenylboronic acid (600 mg, 3.98 mmol), cesium carbonate (2.36 g, 7.24 mmol), and PdCl<sub>2</sub>(dppf) (132 mg, 0.181 mmol) were added to 10 ml of a 1:1 solution of DMF/THF. The reaction was flushed with nitrogen and heated to 90°C for 1 h. The reaction was cooled, poured into diethyl ether and washed with water (2x50 ml), brine

(1x50ml) and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The crude product was filtered through silica gel, eluted with diethyl ether, and concentrated to provide the title compound. MS  $m/z$  251 (M-1).

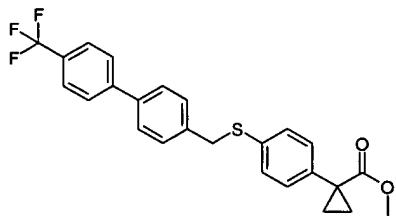
## **5 Step 5. Preparation of 4-Chloromethyl-4'-trifluoromethyl-biphenyl (compound 36E)**



36E

10 The product from **Example 36D** was dissolved in 10 ml methylene chloride.  
Triethylamine (468 mg, 4.62 mol) and methanesulfonyl chloride (422 mg, 3.68 mmol)  
were then added and stirred for 18 h. The reaction was poured into water and extracted  
with methylene chloride. The organic solution was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate,  
decanted and concentrated to provide the title compound that was used without further  
15 purification. MS *m/z* 235 (M-Cl+1).

**Step 6. Preparation of 1-[4-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenyl]-cyclopropane-carboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 36F):**



36F

Compound **36C** (416 mg, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (50 mL) with example **36E** (568 mg, 2.1 mmol) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.3g, 4.0 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at RT overnight. Ether (50 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O were added and stirring was continued for another 5 min. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether (2x100 mL). The combined organics was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to an oil. The crude product was purified by column chromatography eluted with EtOAc and

hexanes to give the desired product, compound **36F** as a thick yellow oil (597g , 68%).  
MS: 443 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>

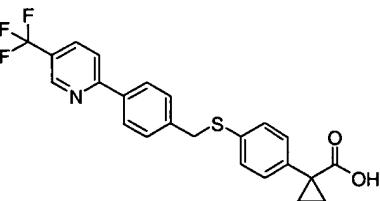
**Step 7.Preparation of 1-[4-(4'-Trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-**

**5 phenyl]-cyclopropane-carboxylic acid (compound 36)**

To the solution of the above methyl ester, compound **36F** (597 mg, 1.35 mmol) in MeOH (10mL) and THF (10mL) was added LiOH.H<sub>2</sub>O (170mg, 4.0 mmol). After refluxing overnight, the solution was cooled to RT and solvents were removed by rotavap. The 10 residue was dissolved in water and neutralized with 1N HCl. The cloudy solution was extracted with EtOAc (3x50 mL) and the extracts were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated. The crude product was purified by chromatography to afford a yellow solid, which was further washed with ether to yield the desired product as yellowish 15 crystals (486mg, 84%). MS: 427 (M-1)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S C, 67.28; H, 4.47; found: C, 67.37; H, 4.26.

**Example 37**

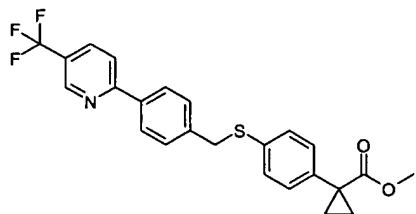
**Synthesis of 1-{4-[4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 37)**



20

**37**

**Step 1.Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropane-carboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 37A)**



25

**37A**

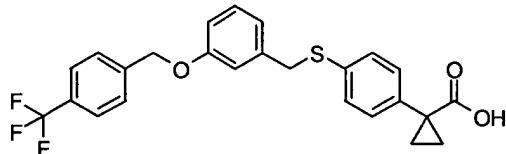
The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 64% yield. MS: 444 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

**Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(5-Trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropane-carboxylic acid (compound 37)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of example **36** in 74% yield. MS: 430 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>18</sub> F<sub>3</sub> NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 64.33; H, 4.22; N, 3.26; found: C, 64.15; H, 4.11, N, 3.21.

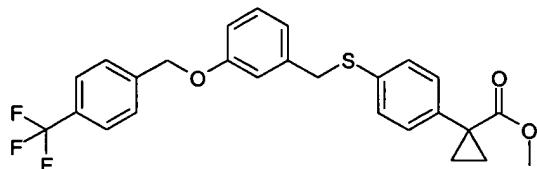
**Example 38**

**10 Synthesis of 1-{4-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 38)**



**38**

**15 Step 1. Preparation of 1-{4-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 38A)**



**38A**

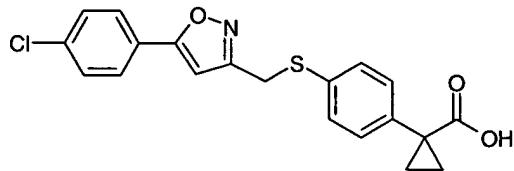
The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 58% yield. MS: 473 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

**Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 38)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for example **36** in 99% yield. MS: 457 (M-1)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub> F<sub>3</sub> O<sub>3</sub>S: C, 65.49; H, 4.62; found: C, 65.12; H, 4.45.

**Example 39**

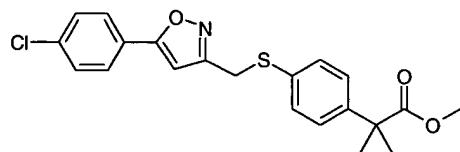
**Synthesis of 1-{4-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 39)**



5

**39**

**Step 1. Preparation of 1-{4-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 39A)**



10

**39A**

The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 70% yield. MS: 400 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

15

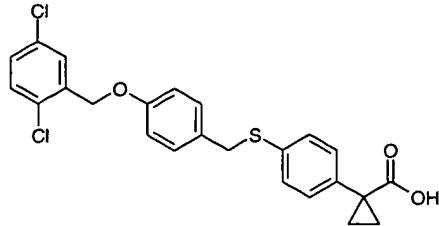
**Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 39)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of example **36** in 98% yield. MS: 386 (M-1)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 62.25; H, 4.18; N, 3.63; found: C, 62.05; H, 4.05, N, 3.58.

20

**Example 40**

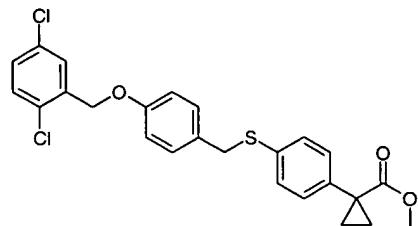
**Synthesis of 1-{4-[4-(2,5-Dichloro-benzylxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 40)**



40

**Step 1. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(2,5-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 40A)**

5



40A

The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 70% yield. MS: 473 (M-1)<sup>+</sup>.

10

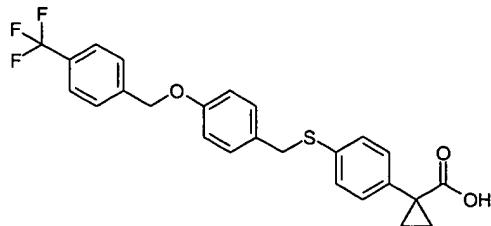
**Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(2,5-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 40)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of example **36** in 94% yield. MS: 457 (M-1)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C, 62.75; H, 4.39; found:

15 C, 62.62; H, 4.23.

**Example 41**

**Synthesis of 1-{4-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 41)**

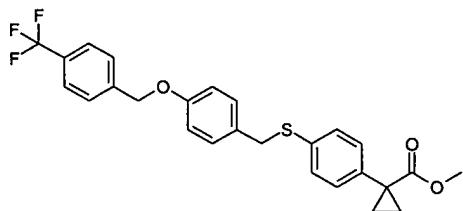


20

41

**Step 1. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 41A)**

5



41A

The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 81% yield. MS: 473 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

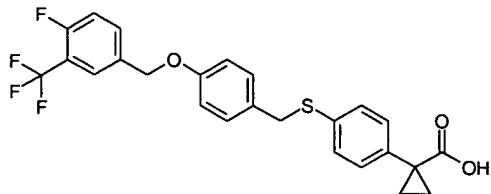
10 **Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 41)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of example **36** in 60% yield. MS: 457 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C, 65.49; H, 4.62; found: C, 65.04; H, 4.34.

15

**Example 43**

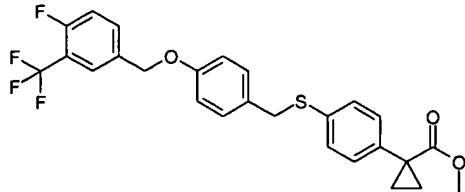
**Synthesis of 1-{4-[4-(4-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 43)**



20

43

**Step 1. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(4-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 43A)**



**43A**

The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 72% yield. MS: 507 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

5

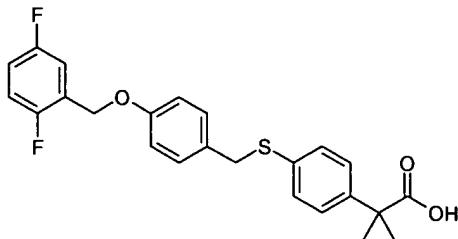
**Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(4-Fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 43)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of example **36** in  
10 56% yield. MS: 491 (M-1)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C, 60.91; H, 4.09;  
found: C, 60.93; H, 3.83.

**Example 44**

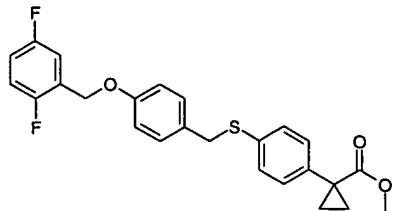
**Synthesis of 1-{4-[4-(2,5-Difluoro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 44)**

15



**44**

**Step 1. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(2,5-Difluoro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 44A)**



**44A**

The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 82% yield. MS: 441 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>.

5

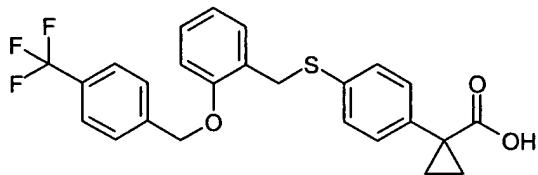
**Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[4-(2,5-Difluoro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 44)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of example **36** in 10 60% yield. MS: 425 ( $M-1$ )<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C, 67.59; H, 4.73; found: C, 67.55; H, 4.37.

**Example 45**

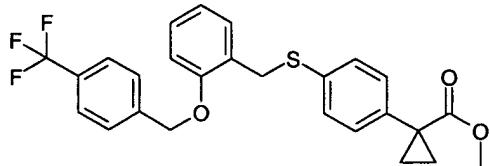
**Synthesis of 1-{4-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 45)**

15



**45**

**Step 1. Preparation of 1-{4-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 45A)**



20

**45A**

The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 65% yield. MS: 473 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

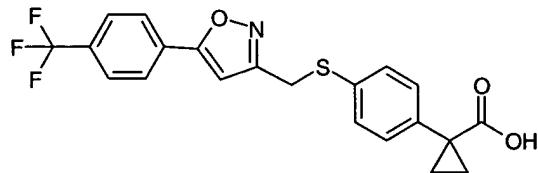
5      **Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 45)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of example **36** in 52% yield. MS: 457 (M-1)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C, 65.49; H, 4.62; found: C, 64.91; H, 4.33.

10

**Example 46**

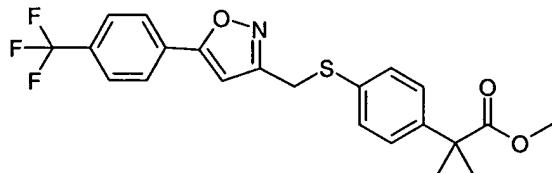
**Synthesis of 1-{4-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 46)**



15

**46**

**Step 1. Preparation of 1-{4-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid methyl ester (compound 46)**



20

**46A**

The ester was synthesized with the same procedure as used for synthesis of compound **36F** in 65% yield. MS: 434 (M+1)<sup>+</sup>.

25

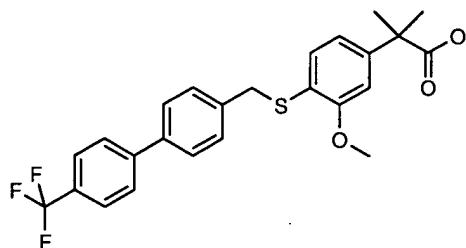
**Step 2. Preparation of 1-{4-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-phenyl}-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (compound 46)**

The acid was synthesized with the same procedure as used for example **36** in 59% yield.

5 MS: 420 ( $M+1$ )<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 60.14; H, 3.85; found: C, 59.64; H, 3.63.

**Example 47**

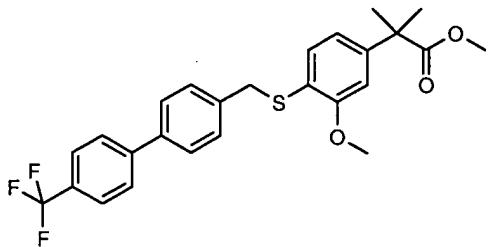
**Synthesis of 2-[3-Methoxy-4-(4'-trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenyl]-2-methyl-propionic acid (compound 47)**



10

**47**

**Step 1. Preparation of 2-[3-Methoxy-4-(4'-trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenyl]-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester (compound 47A)**



15

**47A**

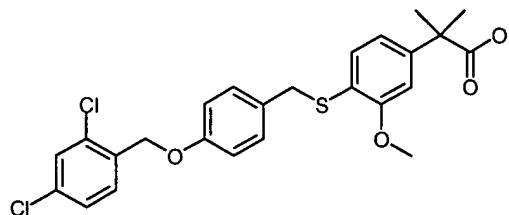
Compound **47A** was prepared analogously to compound **21D** using the product prepared from compound **21C**. Yield was 34% after flash column purification. MS *m/z* 475  
20 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation 2-[3-Methoxy-4-(4'-trifluoromethyl-biphenyl-4-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenyl]-2-methyl-propionic acid (compound 47)**

Compound **47** was prepared analogously to compound **21** in 61% yield. MS *m/z* 461 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>3</sub>SF<sub>3</sub> C, 65.20; H, 5.03; found: C, 65.43; H, 4.97.

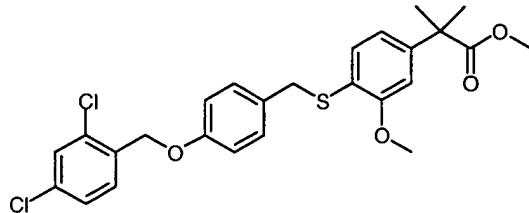
**Example 48**

5   Synthesis of 2-{4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3-methoxy-phenyl}-2-methyl-propionic acid (compound **48**).



**48**

**Step 1. Preparation of 2-{4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3-methoxy-phenyl}-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester (compound 48A).**



5

**48A**

Compound **48A** was prepared analogously to compound **21D** using the products prepared from example **21C**. Yield was 34% after flash column purification. MS *m/z* 504 (M-1).

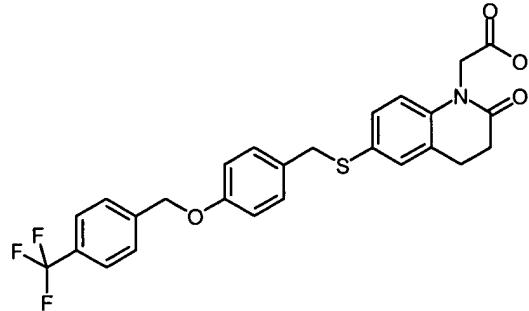
10    **Step 2. Preparation 2-{4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3-methoxy-phenyl}-2-methyl-propionic acid (compound 48)**

Compound **48** was prepared analogously to compound **21** in 28% yield. MS *m/z* 490 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub>SCl<sub>2</sub> C, 61.10; H, 4.92; found: C, 61.07; H, 4.79.

15

**Example 49**

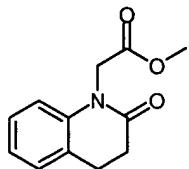
**Synthesis of {2-Oxo-6-[4-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 49)**



20

**49**

**Step 1. Preparation of (2-Oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 49A).**



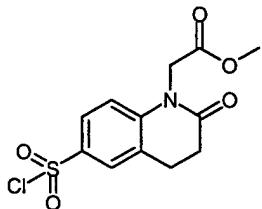
**49A**

5

Methyl bromoacetate (5.72g, 37.4 mmol) was slowly added to a stirred solution of sodium hydride (1.5g, 37.4 mmol) and 3,4-dihydro-2 (1H)-quinolinone (5.0g, 34 mmol) in THF. The mixture was stirred at RT for 3h. After removing the solvent, the residue was diluted with water and ether. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether (3x50 mL). The combined organics were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and condensed to afford the desired product, compound 49A (7.06g, 95%) as a yellow solid. MS *m/z* 220 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of (6-Chlorosulfonyl-2-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl)**

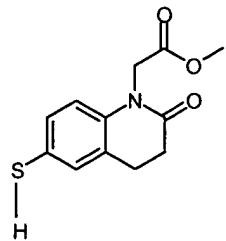
15    **acetic acid methyl ester (compound 49B).**



**49B**

Compound 49B was prepared analogously to compound 21B using the product prepared  
20 from compound 49A. Yield was 28%. MS *m/z* 318 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation of (6-Mercapto-2-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 49C).**

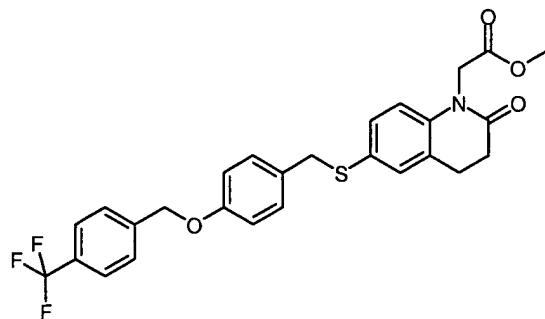


**49C**

5

Compound 49C was prepared analogously to compound 21C using the product prepared from compound 49B. Yield was quantitative. MS *m/z* 252 (M+1).

**10 Step 4. Preparation of {2-Oxo-6-[4-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 49D).**



**49D**

**15** Compound 49D was prepared analogously to compound 21D using the product prepared from compound 49C. Yield was 17% after flash column purification. MS *m/z* 516 (M+1).

**Step 5. Preparation {2-Oxo-6-[4-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 49).**

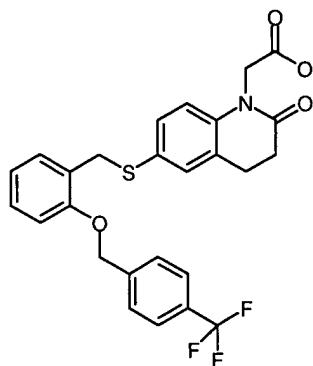
20

Compound **49** was prepared analogously to compound **21** in 98% yield. MS  $m/z$  502 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>SF<sub>3</sub> C, 62.27; H, 4.42; N 2.79, found: C, 62.11; H, 4.72, N 2.72.

5

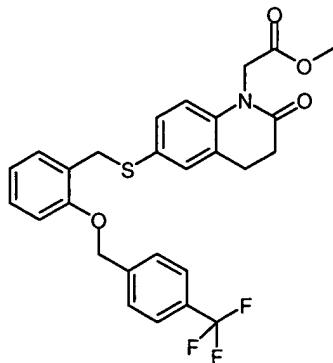
### Example 50

Synthesis of {2-Oxo-6-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 50)

**50**

10

**Step 1. Preparation of {2-Oxo-6-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 50A).**

**50A**

15

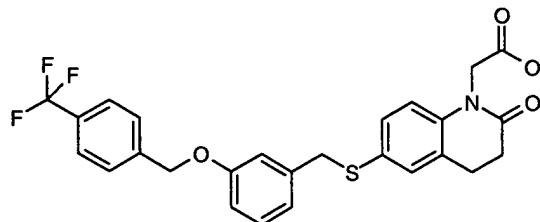
Compound **50A** was prepared analogously to compound **21D** using the product prepared from compound **49C**. Yield was 33% after flash column purification. MS  $m/z$  516 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation {2-Oxo-6-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 50).**

Compound **50** was prepared analogously to compound **21** in 63% yield. MS *m/z* 502 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>SF<sub>3</sub> C, 62.27; H, 4.42; N 2.79, found: C, 62.26; H, 4.29, N 2.73.

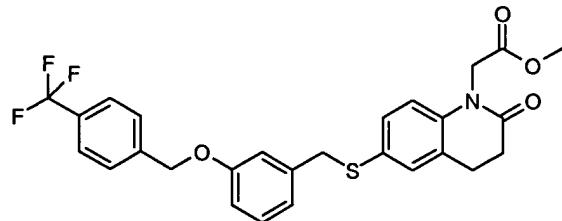
**Example 51**

**Synthesis of {2-Oxo-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 51)**



**51**

**Step 1. Preparation of {2-Oxo-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 51A)**



**51A**

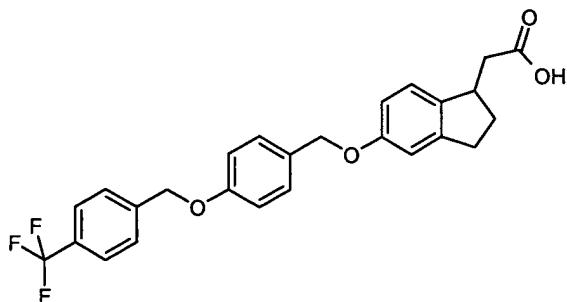
The product from example **49C** (500 mg, 1.1 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (20 mL) with **6B** (540 mg, 1.0 mmol) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.3 g, 2.2 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 3h. Ether (15 mL) and water were added and the stirring was continued for another 5 min. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether (2x15 mL). The combined organics was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and

concentrated to an oil. The crude product was purified by column chromatography eluted with EtOAc and hexanes to give the desired product, compound **51A** as a yellow oil (130 mg, 14%). MS  $m/z$  516 (M+1).

## 5 Step 2. Preparation of {2-Oxo-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 51)

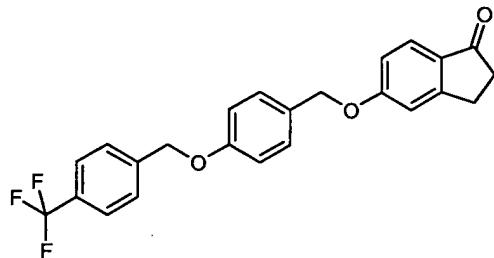
Compound **51** was prepared analogously to compound **21** in 99% yield. MS *m/z* 500 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>SF<sub>3</sub> C 62.27; H 4.42; N 2.79; found: C 62.63, H 4.32, N 2.60.

## Synthesis of {5-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-indan-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 52)



15 52

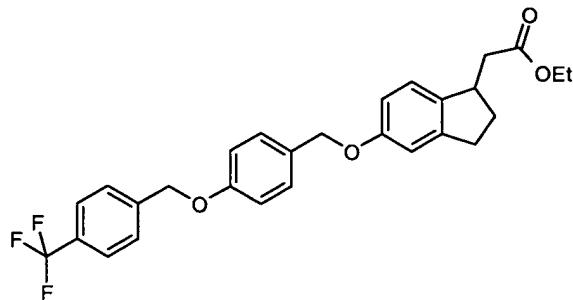
**Step 1. Preparation of 5-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl -benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-indan-1-one (compound 52A)**



20 52A

5-Hydroxyindanone (1.0 g, 1.1 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (40 mL) with **5E** (1.8g, 1.0 mmol) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (4.4 g, 2.2 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 3h. Ether (25 mL) and water were added and the stirring was continued for another 5 min. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether (2x20 mL). The combined organics was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to a tan solid. The crude product was purified by column chromatography eluted with EtOAc and hexanes to give the desired product, compound **52A** as a tan solid (1.26g, 50%). MS *m/z* 413 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of {5-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-indan-1-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester (compound **52B**).**

**52B**

The product from example **52A** (1.25 g, 3.03 mmol) and triethyl phosphonoacetate (1.36 g, 6.06 mmol) in THF (15 ml) was added to a stirred solution of sodium hydride (240 mg, 6.06 mmol) and ethanol (104 mg, 2.27 mmol) in THF (20 mL). The mixture was heated at 80°C overnight. After removing the solvent in vacuo, the residue was diluted with water (50 ml) and layered with ether (50 ml). The layers were separated and the aqueous layer extracted with ether (2x25 ml). The combined organics were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and condensed to give a crude dark oil. It was purified by column chromatography eluted with 10% EtOAc and hexanes to afford the yellow solids in 20% yield.

Compound **52B** was then prepared by hydrogenation of the unsaturated solid catalyzed by Pd/C (10%) in 86% yield. MS: 485 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation of {5-[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-indan-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 52)**

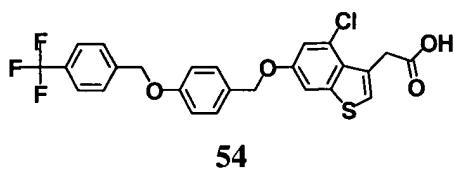
Compound 52 was prepared analogously to compound 21 in 20% yield. MS  $m/z$  455 (M-1).

Anal. Calc'd for  $C_{26}H_{23}O_4F_3$  C 68.41; H 5.08; N 0.0; found: C 68.20, H 4.92, N 0.05.

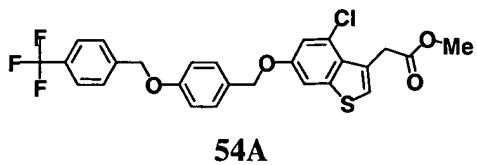
There is no Example 53.

**Example 54**

**Synthesis of {4-Chloro-6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 54)**



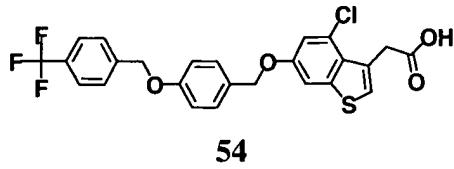
**Step 1. Preparation of {4-Chloro-6-[4-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 54A)**



20

The title compound was made from example 9E and 5E in the manner analogous to example 5F. MS  $m/z$  521 (M+1).

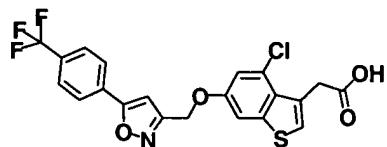
**Step 2. Preparation of {4-Chloro-6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 54)**



The title compound was prepared from compound **54A** in a manner analogous to compound **1**. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.70 (d, 2 H, *J*=8.3 Hz), 7.61 (d, 2H, *J*=8.3 Hz), 7.61 (s, 1 H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, 2 H, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.05 (d, 1H, *J*=2.2 Hz), 5 6.99 (d, 2 H, *J*=8.8 Hz), 5.19 (s, 2 H), 5.05 (s, 2 H), 3.94 (s, 2 H); MS *m/z* 505 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>Cl<sub>1</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S C, 59.23; H, 3.58; found: C, 58.62; H, 3.20.

### Example 55

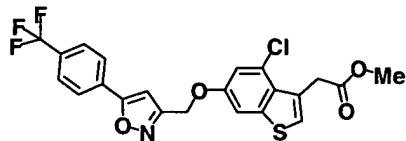
10 **Synthesis of {4-Chloro-6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 55)**



55

15

**Step 1. Preparation of {4-Chloro-6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 55A)**

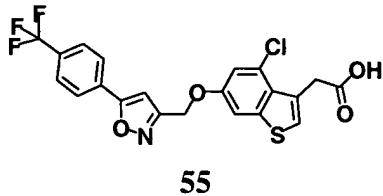


55A

20

The title compound was made from example **9E** and **13C** in the manner analogous to example **5F**. MS *m/z* 480(M-1).

25 **Step 2. Preparation of {4-Chloro-6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 55)**



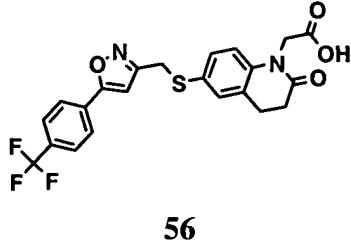
The title compound was prepared from compound **55A** in a manner analogous to  
 5 compound **1**.  $400\text{ MHz } ^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.07 (d, 2 H,  $J=8.1\text{ Hz}$ ), 7.86 (d, 2H,  
 $J=8.1\text{ Hz}$ ), 7.70 (d, 2 H,  $J=2.4\text{ Hz}$ ), 7.45 (s, 1 H), 7.35 (s, 1 H), 7.16 (d, 1H,  $J=2.4\text{ Hz}$ ),  
 6.99 (d, 2 H,  $J=8.8\text{ Hz}$ ), 5.33 (s, 2 H), 3.96 (s, 2 H);  $\text{MS } m/z$  466 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for  
 $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}_1\text{F}_3\text{N}_1\text{O}_4\text{S}$  C, 53.91; H, 2.80; found: C, 53.72; H, 2.59.

10

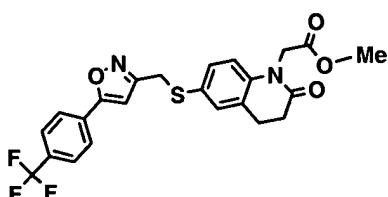
**Example 56**

**Synthesis of {2-Oxo-6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 56)**

15

20   **56A**

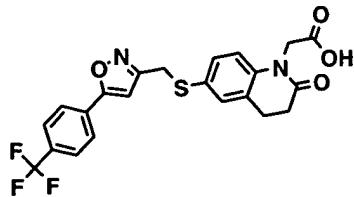
**Step 1. Preparation of {2-Oxo-6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound**

**56A**

The title compound was made from example **49C** and **13C** in the manner analogous to example **5F**. MS *m/z* 477 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of {2-Oxo-6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-**

**5 ylmethylsulfanyl]-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 56)**



**56**

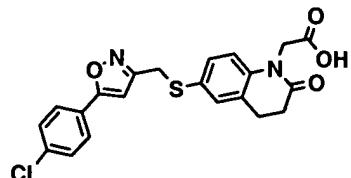
10 The title compound was prepared from compound **56A** in a manner analogous to compound **1**. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.02 (d, 2 H, *J*=8.1 Hz), 7.83 (d, 2H, *J*=8.1 Hz), 7.27 (s, 1 H), 7.20 (d, 1H, *J*=10.8 Hz), 7.14 (s, 1 H), 6.83 (d, 1 H, *J*=8.5 Hz), 4.48 (s, 2 H), 4.23 (s, 2 H), 2.80 (t, 2H, *J*=6.6 Hz), 2.50 (t, 2H, *J*=6.6 Hz); MS *m/z* 463 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>1</sub> C, 57.14; H, 3.71; found: C, 57.04; H, 3.55.

15

**Example 57**

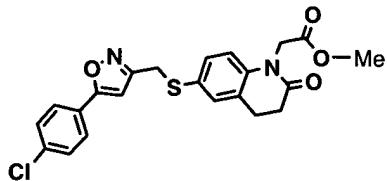
**Synthesis of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-2-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 57)}**

20



**57**

25 **Step 1. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-2-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 57A)**

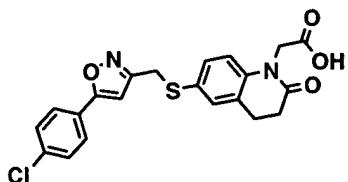


**57A**

The title compound was made from example **49C** and commercially available 3-chloromethyl-5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazole in the manner analogous to example **5F**. MS *m/z* 443 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethylsulfanyl]-2-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-acetic acid (compound 57)**

10



**57**

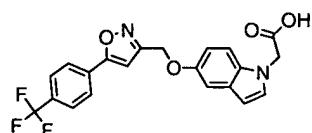
The title compound was prepared from compound **57A** in a manner analogous to compound **1**. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.82 (d, 2 H, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.53 (d, 2H, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.26 (s, 1 H), 7.20 (d, 1H, *J*=10.8 Hz), 6.99 (s, 1 H), 6.83 (d, 1 H, *J*=8.6 Hz), 4.48 (s, 2 H), 4.20 (s, 2 H), 2.80 (t, 2H, *J*=6.6 Hz), 2.50 (t, 2H, *J*=6.6 Hz); MS *m/z* 463 (M+1). MS *m/z* 429 (M+1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>1</sub> · 0.1 H<sub>2</sub>F<sub>0</sub> C, 58.56; H, 4.03; found: C, 58.33; H, 3.92.

20 There are no Examples 58-61.

**Example 62**

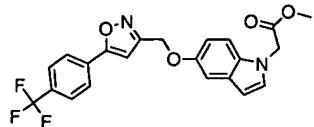
**Synthesis of {5-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indol-1-yl}-acetic acid (Compound 62)**

25



**62**

**Step 1. Preparation of {5-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indol-1-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 62A)**

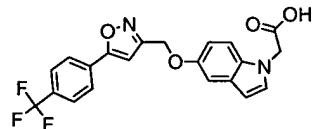


5

**62A**

**Compound 13C and Compound 72B** were reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 59C** to give the title product. MS *m/z* 431 (M+1).

10 **Step 2. Preparation of {5-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-indol-1-yl}-acetic acid (Compound 62)**



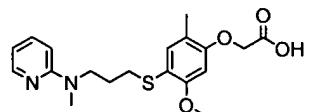
**62**

15 **Compound 62A** was reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 59** to give the title product. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 4.9 (s, 1 H) 5.2 (s, 1 H) 6.3 (d, *J*=3.2 Hz, 1 H) 6.8 (dd, *J*=8.9, 2.3 Hz, 1 H) 7.2 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1 H) 7.3 (m, 1 H) 7.3 (s, 1 H) 7.9 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 1 H) 8.1 (d, *J*=8.1 Hz, 1 H)). MS *m/z* 417 (M+1).

20

**Example 63**

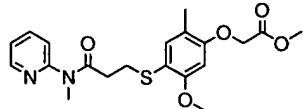
**Synthesis of {5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-[3-(methyl-pyridin-2-yl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 63)**



25

**63**

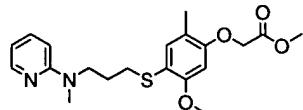
**Step 1. Preparation of {5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-[2-(methyl-pyridin-2-yl-carbamoyl)-ethylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 63A)**

**63A**

5 Methyl-pyridin-2-yl-amine (2 g, 18.5 mmol) and 3.8 ml triethylamine were dissolved in 30 ml ethyl acetate and cooled to -78 C. Acryloyl chloride (2.8 g, 27.7 mmol) was added and then removed from the dry ice bath. A yellow precipitate formed and the reaction was allowed to warm to room temp. 10 ml water was added and allowed to stir 1 minute. The organic layer was removed, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated. The N-methyl-N-pyridin-2-yl-acrylamide and **Compound TA** were added to 10 ml chloroform. 1 drop triethylamine was added and allowed to stir for 3 days. The reaction was concentrated and chromatographed to give the title compound as a clear colorless oil. MS *m/z* 405 (M+1).

10

15 **Step 2. Preparation of {5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-[3-(methyl-pyridin-2-yl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 63B)**

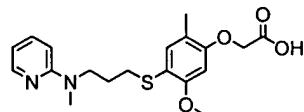
**63B**

**Compound 63A** was dissolved POCl<sub>3</sub> (250 mg, 1.6 mmol) and stirred for 15 minutes.

20 The reaction was concentrated by blowing with nitrogen followed by concentration under vacuum. The intermediate was dissolved in 5 ml dimethoxyethane and cooled to ca. 5 C. Sodium borohydride (20 mg, 0.53 mmol) was added followed by warming to room temp. After 3h 25 ml 2N HCl was added and heated to boiling for 1 minute. Saturated sodium bicarbonate was added to pH ca. 7-8. The crude product was extracted with 2x20 ml

25 ethyl acetate, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated. Liquid chromatography gave the title product as a clear colorless oil. MS *m/z* 391 (M+1).

**Step 4. Preparation of {5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-[3-(methyl-pyridin-2-yl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 63)**

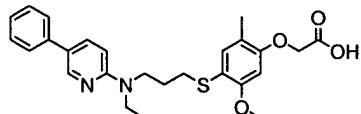


63

Compound 63B was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  ppm 1.6 (m, 2 H) 2.0 (s, 3 H) 2.7 (t,  $J=7.1$  Hz, 2 H) 2.9 (s, 2 H) 3.5 (t,  $J=7.1$  Hz, 2 H) 3.7 (s, 2 H) 4.7 (s, 2 H) 6.5 (dd,  $J=6.7, 5.2$  Hz, 1 H) 6.5 (t,  $J=4.3$  Hz, 2 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.4 (ddd,  $J=8.8, 7.0, 2.1$  Hz, 1 H) 8.0 (dd,  $J=4.9, 1.2$  Hz, 1 H). MS  $m/z$  377 (M+1).

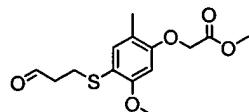
**Example 64**

15 **Synthesis of (4-{3-[Ethyl-(5-phenyl-pyridin-2-yl)-amino]-propylsulfanyl}-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid (Compound 64)**



64

20 **Step 1. Preparation of [5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-(3-oxo-propylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 64A)**



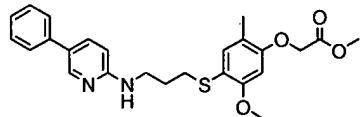
64A

Compound TA (1 g, 4.13 mmol) was dissolved in 15 ml chloroform. Acrolein (255 mg, 4.5 mmol) was added followed by 4 drops of triethylamine. The reaction was stirred for 25 2h. The reaction was filtered through silica and eluted with 50 ml dichloromethane. The filtrate was concentrated to give a clear, colorless oil which formed a white solid on

standing. This was used for the next step without further purification. MS *m/z* 299 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of {5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-[3-(5-phenyl-pyridin-2-ylamino)-**

5 **propylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 64B)**



**64B**

Commercially available 5-phenyl-pyridin-2-ylamine (631 mg, 3.7 mmol) and **Compound**

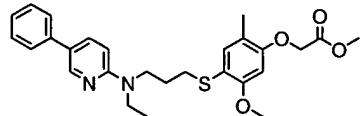
**64A** were dissolved in 20 ml methanol with catalytic p-TsOH (ca. 20 mg) and stirred at

10 25 C for 18 h to give a yellow solution. NaH3CN was added and the reaction was allowed to stir for 1h. 2N HCl was added to pH<3 and stirred 5 minutes. Saturated sodium bicarbonate was added and the product was extracted in to 100 ml ethyl acetate, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated. Liquid chromatography gave the title compound as a white solid. MS *m/z* 453 (M+1).

15

**Step 3. Preparation of (4-[3-[Ethyl-(5-phenyl-pyridin-2-yl)-amino]-propylsulfanyl]-**

**5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 64C)**



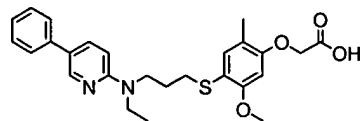
**64C**

20

**Compound 64B** (300 mg, 0.66 mmol), acetaldehyde (32 mg, 0.73 mmol), sodium triacetoxyborohydride (211 mg, 0.994 mmol), and 57  $\mu$ l acetic acid were added to 5 ml dichloroethane and stirred at room temperature for 3 days. 1 eq more of aldehyde, sodium triacetoxyborohydride, and acetic acid were added and stirred 3 h more. 10 ml

25 2N HCl was added followed by saturated sodium bicarbonate to pH ca. 8. The product was extracted into 20 ml , dried over sodium sulfate, decanted, concentrated. Liquid chromatography give the title compound as a white solid. MS *m/z* 481 (M+1).

**Step 4. Preparation of {4-[3-(Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 64)**

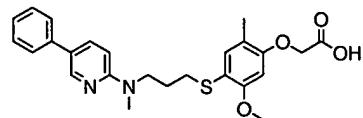


5 **64**

Compound 64C was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  ppm 1.0 (t,  $J=7.0$  Hz, 2 H) 1.7 (m, 2 H) 2.0 (s, 2 H) 2.7 (t,  $J=7.0$  Hz, 2 H) 3.5 (m, 3 H) 4.3 (s, 2 H) 6.4 (s, 1 H) 6.6 (d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 1 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.2 (m, 1 H) 7.3 (m, 2 H) 7.5 (m, 2 H) 7.7 (dd,  $J=8.9, 2.6$  Hz, 1 H) 8.3 (d,  $J=2.0$  Hz, 1 H). MS  $m/z$  467 (M+1).

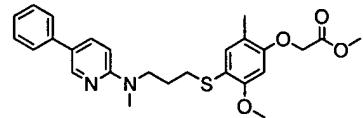
**Example 66**

15 **Synthesis of (5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-{3-[methyl-(5-phenyl-pyridin-2-yl)-amino]-propylsulfanyl}-phenoxy)-acetic acid (Compound 66)**



66

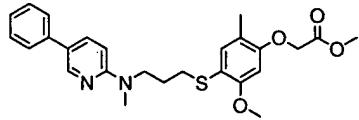
20 **Step 1. Preparation of (5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-{3-[methyl-(5-phenyl-pyridin-2-yl)-amino]-propylsulfanyl}-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 66A)**



66A

25 **Compound 64B** was reacted with paraformaldehyde in a manner analogous to Compound 64C to give the title product. MS  $m/z$  467 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of (5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-{3-[methyl-(5-phenyl-pyridin-2-yl)-amino]-propylsulfanyl}-phenoxy)-acetic acid (Compound 66)**



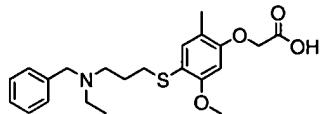
**66A**

5

Compound 66A was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product; 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 1.7 (m, 2 H) 2.0 (s, 3 H) 2.7 (t, 2 H) 3.0 (s, 3 H) 3.6 (t, 2 H) 3.7 (s, 2 H) 4.7 (s, 2 H) 6.5 (s, 1 H) 6.6 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 1 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.2 (m, 1 H) 7.4 (m, 2 H) 7.5 (m, 2 H) 7.7 (dd, *J*=9.0, 2.7 Hz, 1 H) 8.3 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1 H) 10 12.2 (br(s), 1H). MS *m/z* 453 (M+1).

**Example 67**

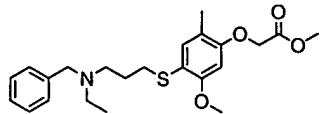
**Synthesis of {4-[3-(Benzyl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 67)**



**67**

15

**Step 1. Preparation of {4-[3-(Benzyl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 67A)**



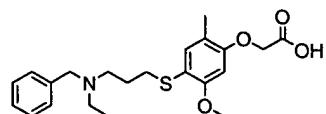
**67A**

20

Compound 64A and benzyl-ethyl-amine were reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 64C to give the title product. MS *m/z* 418 (M+1).

25

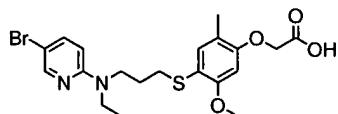
**Step 3. Preparation of {4-[3-(Benzyl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 67)**

**67**

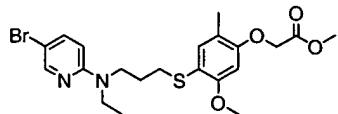
5    **Compound 67A** was reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 59** to give the title product. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 0.9 (t, *J*=7.1 Hz, 3 H) 1.5 (m, 2 H) 2.0 (s, 3 H) 2.3 (q, *J*=6.9 Hz, 2 H) 2.4 (t, 2 H), 2.7 (t, *J*=7.2 Hz, 2 H) 3.4 (s, 2 H) 3.7 (s, 3 H) 4.5 (m, 2 H) 6.5 (s, 1 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.2 (m, 1 H) 7.2 (m, 4 H). MS *m/z* 404 (M+1).

### Example 68

10    **Synthesis of (4-{3-[(5-Bromo-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl-amino]-propylsulfanyl}-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid (Compound 68)**

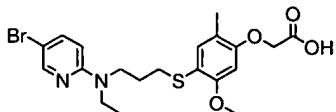
**68**

15    **Step 1. Preparation of (4-{3-[(5-Bromo-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl-amino]-propylsulfanyl}-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 68A)**

**68A**

20    5-Bromo-pyridin-2-ylamine and acetaldehyde were treated under the conditions of **Compound 64C** to give the intermediate (5-bromo-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl-amine. This was then reacted with **Compound 64A** to give the title product. MS *m/z* 481 (M+1).

25    **Step 2. Preparation of (4-{3-[(5-Bromo-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl-amino]-propylsulfanyl}-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid (Compound 68)**



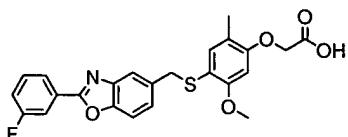
68

Compound 68A was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 1.0 (t, *J*=7.0 Hz, 3 H) 1.6 (m, 2 H) 2.0 (s, 3 H) 2.7 (t, *J*=7.0 Hz, 2 H) 3.4 (m, 4 H) 3.7 (s, 3 H) 4.2 (s, 2 H) 6.4 (s, 1 H) 6.5 (d, *J*=9.0 Hz, 1 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.5 (dd, *J*=9.2, 2.6 Hz, 1 H) 8.0 (d, *J*=2.2 Hz, 1 H). MS *m/z* 471 (M+2)

10

### Example 69

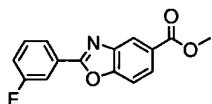
#### Synthesis of {4-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 69)



69

15

#### **Step 1. Preparation of 2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester (Compound 69A)**



69A

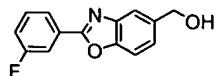
20

3-Fluoro-benzoic acid (7.0 g, 50 mmol), 3-amino-4-hydroxy-benzoic acid methyl ester (8.3 g, 50 mmol) were added portionwise to 50 ml polyphosphoric acid which was heated to 130 °C. The reaction was stirred for 2h at 130 °C and turned into a thick black syrup. The reaction was poured into water with rapid stirring until a pale white suspension was formed. This solution was extract 2x200 ml ethyl acetate, washed 1x50 ml brine, dried over sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated to give the crude product as a light pink solid. MS *m/z* 272 (M+1).

25

**Step 2. Preparation of [2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-yl]-methanol**

**(Compound 69B)**



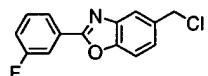
**69B**

5

Lithium aluminum hydride was added to 100 ml THF and stirred for 10 minutes and cooled in an ice bath. A solution of **Compound 69A** (9.06 g, 33.4 mmol) in 200 ml THF was added dropwise over 1/2 hr to the lithium aluminum hydride solution and stirred for

10 2h. A saturated solution of water/sodium sulfate decahydrate was added until gas evolution ceased and a heavy white precipitate formed. The reaction was stirred for 30 minutes more and filtered through Celite®, extracted into 2x200 ml ethyl acetate, washed with 1x50 ml brine dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and filtered through silica. The product was eluted with 300 ml ethyl acetate and concentrated to give a cream colored  
15 solid. MS *m/z* 244 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation 5-Chloromethyl-2-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazole (Compound 69C)**

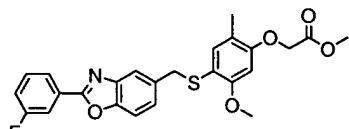


**69C**

20

**Compound 69B** was suspended in 100 ml dichloromethane. SOCl<sub>2</sub> was added and allowed to stir for 2h. 20 ml Saturated sodium bicarbonate was added followed by 20 ml water and stirred for 5 minutes. The dichloromethane layer was separated and dried over  
25 anhydrous sodium sulfate. The dichloromethane solution was filtered through silica and eluted with dichloromethane until clear. Concentration of the filtrate gave a pink solid.  
MS *m/z* 262 (M+1).

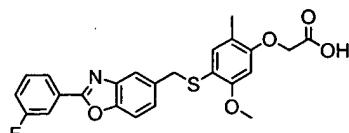
**Step 4. Preparation {4-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 69D)**

**69D**

5

Compound 69C and Compound TA were reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59A to give the title product. MS *m/z* 464 (M+1).

10      **Step 5. Preparation of {4-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 69)**

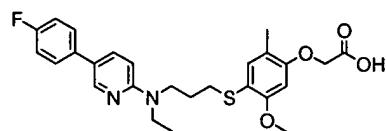
**69**

15      Compound 69D was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 2.0 (s, 3 H) 3.7 (s, 3 H) 4.1 (s, 2 H) 4.7 (s, 2 H) 6.5 (s, 1 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.3 (dd, *J*=8.4, 1.8 Hz, 1 H) 7.4 (m, 1 H) 7.6 (m, 3 H) 7.9 (ddd, *J*=9.5, 2.4, 1.5 Hz, 1 H) 8.0 (dt, *J*=8.1, 1.1 Hz, 1 H). MS *m/z* 454 (M+1).

20

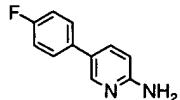
**Example 70**

**Synthesis of [4-(3-{Ethyl-[5-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-pyridin-2-yl]-amino}-propylsulfanyl)-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid (Compound 70)**

**70**

25

**Step 1. Synthesis of 5-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-pyridin-2-ylamine (Compound 70A)**



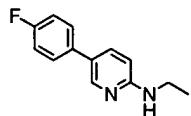
**70A**

5

5-Bromo-pyridin-2-ylamine (2.00 g, 11.6 mmol) and 4-fluorophenylboronic acid (1.8 g, 12.7 mmol), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2.45 g, 23 mmol), 210 mL water, were added to 20 ml degassed DME and heated to 80 deg. C. for 5h. The reaction was cooled and poured into 100 ml ether, washed 2x50 ml water, 1x50 ml brine, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated. The crude product was dissolved in 1:1 dichloromethane/hexanes and filtered through silica gel and eluted with 200 ml 1:1 dichloromethane/hexanes. The filtrate was concentrated to a white solid. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 6.0 (s, 2 H) 6.5 (dd, *J*=8.8, 1.0 Hz, 1 H) 7.2 (t, *J*=9.0 Hz, 2 H) 7.5 (m, 3 H) 8.2 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1 H).

10

**Step 2. Synthesis of Ethyl-[5-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-pyridin-2-yl]-amine (Compound 70B)**



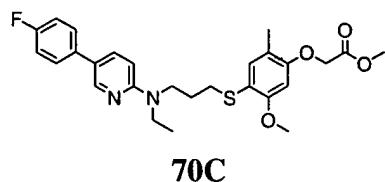
**70B**

15

Compound 70A was reacted with acetaldehyde in a manner analogous to Compound 63C to give the title product. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 1.1 (t, 3 H) 3.2 (q, 2 H) 6.6 (m, 2 H) 7.2 (m, 2 H) 7.5 (m, 3 H) 8.2 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1 H).

**Step 3. Preparation of [4-(3-{Ethyl-[5-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-pyridin-2-yl]-amino}-propylsulfanyl)-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 70C)**

5

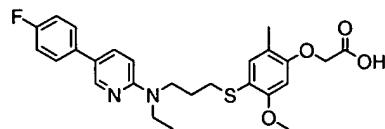


10

**Compound 70B and Compound 64A** were reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 63C** to give the title product. MS *m/z* 499 (M+1).

15

**Step 5. Preparation [4-(3-{Ethyl-[5-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-pyridin-2-yl]-amino}-propylsulfanyl)-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid (Compound 70)**



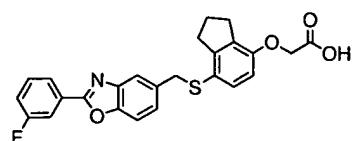
20

**Compound 70C** was reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 59** to give the title product. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 1.0 (t, 3 H) 1.7 (m, 2 H) 2.7 (t, *J*=7.1 Hz, 2 H) 3.5 (m, 4 H) 4.1 (s, 2 H) 6.4 (s, 1 H) 6.6 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 1 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.2 (m, 2 H) 7.6 (m, 2 H) 7.7 (dd, *J*=9.0, 2.7 Hz, 1 H) 8.3 (d, *J*=2.2 Hz, 1 H). MS *m/z* 485 (M+1)

**Example 71**

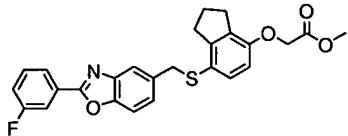
25

**Synthesis of {7-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid (Compound 71)**



71

Step 1. Preparation of {7-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 71A)



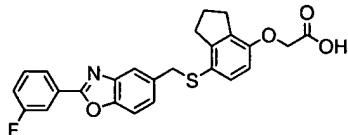
5

71A

Compound 69C and Compound 1D were reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59A to give the title product. MS *m/z* 464 (M+1).

10

Step 2. Preparation of {7-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-indan-4-yloxy}-acetic acid (Compound 71)



15

71

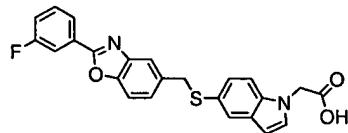
Compound 71A was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 1.9 (m, 2 H) 2.7 (m, 4 H) 4.2 (s, 2 H) 4.6 (s, 2 H) 6.6 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1 H) 7.1 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1 H) 7.3 (dd, *J*=8.5, 1.7 Hz, 1 H) 7.4 (m, 1 H) 7.6 (m, 3 H) 7.9 (m, 1 H) 8.0 (dt, *J*=8.1, 1.1 Hz, 1 H) 12.9 (br(s), 1H). MS *m/z* 450 (M+1).

20

Example 72

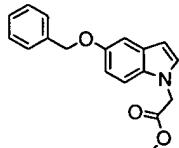
25

Synthesis of {5-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-indol-1-yl}-acetic acid (Compound 72)



72

**Step 1. Preparation of (5-Benzyl-1H-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 72A)**

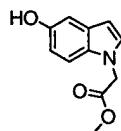


5

72A

5-Benzyl-1H-indole (20g, 89.6 mmol) was dissolved in 50 ml DMF. NaH (2.3 g, 94 mmol) was added and allowed to stir 10 minutes. Bromo-acetic acid methyl ester (15.1 g, 98.5 mmol) was then added followed by stirring for 2h. 30 ml 2N HCl was added followed by extraction with 2x100 ml diethyl ether. The ether extracts were washed 1x100 ml water, 1x100 ml brine, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated. Purification by liquid chromatography gave the title product as a white solid. MS *m/z* 296 (M+1).

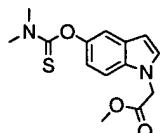
15    **Step 2. Preparation of (5-Hydroxy-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 72B)**



72B

Compound 72A (18.9 g, 64 mmol) was dissolved in 100 ml 1:1 ethyl acetate/ethanol. 200 mg 10% Pd/C was added followed by purging with hydrogen. The reaction was stirred vigorously under balloon pressure for 16 h. The reaction was filtered through Celite® and concentrated to an oil which was filtered through 0.45 uM filter to give a pale yellow oil which crystallized on standing. MS *m/z* 206 (M+1).

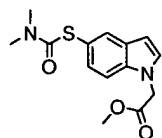
**Step 3. Preparation of (5-Dimethylthiocarbamoyloxy-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 72C)**



**72C**

5   **Compound 72B** (9.12 g, 44.4 mmol) was dissolved in 50 ml DMF. NaH was added portionwise over 5 minutes. After stirring for 15 minutes a solution of thiocarbamoyl chloride (5.8 g, 46.7 mmol) in 25 ml DMF was added and allowed to stir for 2h. 50 ml 2N HCl was added and the reaction was extracted 2x100 ml ether, washed 2x100 ml water, 1x100 ml brine, and filtered through silica. The product was eluted with 200 ml  
10 diethyl ether and concentrated. The precipitate was filtered and dried under vacuum for 16 h. MS *m/z* 293 (M+1).

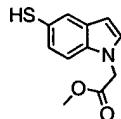
**Step 4. Preparation of (5-Dimethylcarbamoylsulfanyl-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 72D)**



**72D**

30 ml Diphenyl ether was heated to 260 °C. A solution of **Compound 72C** (5.09 g, 17.4 mmol) in 20 ml diphenyl ether was added and allowed to heat at 260 C for 24h. The  
20 reaction became dark brown after 5h. The reaction mixture was filtered through silica and eluted with 500 ml 9:1 hexanes/ dichloromethane. The clear, yellow filtrate was concentrated to a dark orange oil and was used for the next step without further purification. MS *m/z* 293 (M+1).

**Step 5. Preparation of (5-Mercapto-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 72E)**



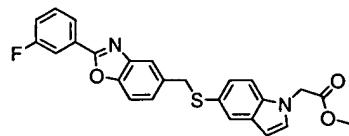
**72E**

5    **Compound 72D** (4.04 g, 13.8 mmol) was dissolved in 200 ml methanol. Nitrogen was bubbled for 5 minutes followed by the addition of a 2N NaOH solution (1.4g/17 ml water). The solution was heated at reflux and turned brown after 10 minutes. The reaction was concentrated to ca. 50 ml under vacuum and acidified to pH<4 with 2N HCl. The product was extracted into ethyl acetate 2x100 ml, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated. The crude acid was dissolved into 100 ml anhydrous methanol followed by 5 drops concentrated sulfuric acid. This was heated at reflux for 3h then cooled to room temp. 500 mg dithiothreitol was added followed by 100 mg sodium borohydride. This was stirred for 1h and concentrated to an oil. The crude thiol ester was dissolved into 100 ml dichloromethane, filtered through silica and eluted with 10 ml dichloromethane. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by liquid chromatography to give the title product as a yellow oil. MS *m/z* 222 (M+1).

10    sulfide, decanted and concentrated. The crude acid was dissolved into 100 ml anhydrous methanol followed by 5 drops concentrated sulfuric acid. This was heated at reflux for 3h then cooled to room temp. 500 mg dithiothreitol was added followed by 100 mg sodium borohydride. This was stirred for 1h and concentrated to an oil. The crude thiol ester was dissolved into 100 ml dichloromethane, filtered through silica and eluted with 10 ml dichloromethane. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by liquid chromatography to give the title product as a yellow oil. MS *m/z* 222 (M+1).

15    300 ml dichloromethane. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by liquid chromatography to give the title product as a yellow oil. MS *m/z* 222 (M+1).

**Step 6. Preparation of {5-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-indol-1-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 72F)**



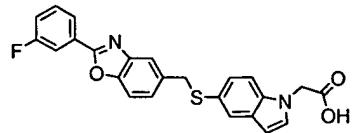
**72F**

20

Compound 70C and Compound 72E were reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59A to give the title product. MS *m/z* 417 (M+1).

25

**Step 7. Preparation of {5-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-indol-1-yl}-acetic acid (Compound 72)**

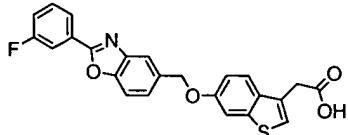


72

Compound 72F was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  ppm 4.9 (s, 2 H) 5.2 (s, 2 H) 6.3 (d,  $J=3.2, 1.0$  Hz, 1 H) 6.8 (dd,  $J=8.8, 2.2$  Hz, 1 H) 7.1 (d,  $J=2.2$  Hz, 1 H) 7.2 (m, 2 H) 7.5 (m, 2 H) 7.6 (m, 1 H) 7.8 (d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 1 H) 7.9 (m, 2 H) 8.0 (dt,  $J=8.1, 1.1$  Hz, 1 H) 12.8 (br(s), 1H).

### Example 73

10 Synthesis of {6-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (Compound 73)

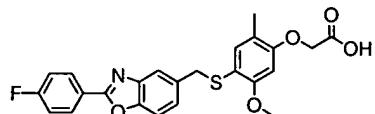


73

15 Compound 69C and Compound 5C were reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59A to give {6-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester. This was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  ppm 3.7 (s, 2 H) 5.3 (s, 2 H) 7.1 (dd,  $J=8.8, 2.4$  Hz, 1 H) 7.3 (s, 1 H) 7.5 (m, 1 H) 7.5 (dd,  $J=8.3, 1.7$  Hz, 1 H) 7.6 (m, 3 H) 7.8 (d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 1 H) 7.9 (m, 2 H) 8.0 (dt,  $J=8.1, 1.1$  Hz, 1 H).

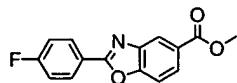
### Example 74

20 Synthesis of {4-[2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 74)



74

**Step 1. Preparation of 2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzooxazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester (Compound 74A)**

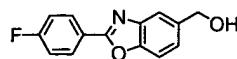


5

**74A**

4-Fluoro-benzoic acid and 3-amino-4-hydroxy-benzoic acid methyl ester were reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 69A** to give the title product. MS *m/z* 272 (M+1).

10    **Step 2. Preparation of [2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzooxazol-5-yl]-methanol (Compound 74B)**

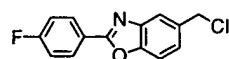


**74B**

15    **Compound 74A** was reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 69B** to give the title product. MS *m/z* 244 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation of 5-Chloromethyl-2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-benzooxazole (Compound 74C)**

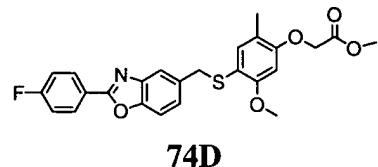
20



**74C**

Compound 74B was reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 69C** to give the title product. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ □ ppm 4.9 (s, 2 H) 7.4 (t, *J*=9.0 Hz, 2 H) 7.5 (dd, *J*=8.4, 1.8 Hz, 1 H) 7.7 (d, *J*=9.0 Hz, 1 H) 7.8 (d, *J*=1.2 Hz, 1 H) 8.2 (dd, *J*=9.0, 5.4 Hz, 2 H).

**Step 4. Preparation of {4-[2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 74C)**

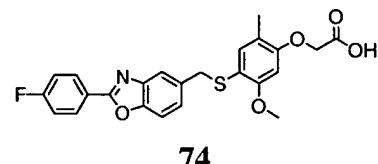


**74D**

5

Compound 74C and Compound TA were reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59A to give the title product. MS *m/z* 468 (M+1).

10 **Step 5. Preparation of {4-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 74)**



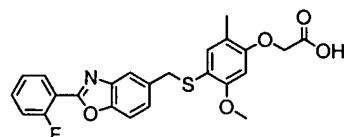
**74**

15 Compound 74C was reacted in a manner analogous to Compound 59 to give the title product; 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ ppm 2.0 (s, 3 H) 3.7 (s, 3 H) 4.1 (s, 2 H) 4.7 (s, 2 H) 6.5 (s, 1 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.3 (dd, *J*=8.3, 1.7 Hz, 1 H) 7.4 (ddd, *J*=8.8, 6.8, 2.2 Hz, 2 H) 7.6 (m, 2 H) 8.2 (m, 2 H) 12.92 (br(s), 1H). MS *m/z* 454 (M+1).

20

**Example 75**

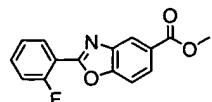
**Synthesis of {4-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 75)**



**75**

25

**Step 1. Preparation of 2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester (Compound 75A)**



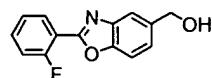
5

**75A**

2-Fluoro-benzoic acid and 3-amino-4-hydroxy-benzoic acid methyl ester were reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 69A** to give the title product. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  ppm 3.8 (s, 3 H) 7.9 (d,  $J=8.5$  Hz, 1 H) 8.0 (dd,  $J=8.5, 1.7$  Hz, 1 H) 8.2 (dd,  $J=9.0, 5.4$  Hz, 2 H) 8.3 (d,  $J=1.7$  Hz, 1 H).

10

**Step 2. Preparation of [2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-yl]-methanol (Compound 75B)**



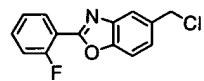
15

**75B**

**Compound 75A** was reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 69B** to give the title product. MS  $m/z$  244 (M+1).

20

**Step 3. Preparation of 5-Chloromethyl-2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazole (Compound 75C)**

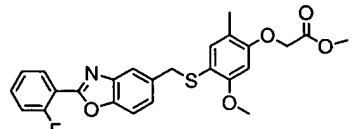


**75C**

25

**Compound 75B** was reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 69C** to give the title product. MS  $m/z$  262 (M+1).

**Step 4. Preparation of {4-[2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (Compound 75D)**



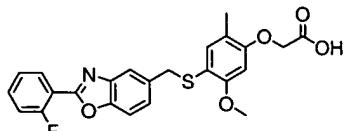
75D

5

**Compound 75C and Compound TA** were reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 59A** to give the title product. MS *m/z* 454 (M+1).

**Step 5. Preparation of {4-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-benzoxazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl]-5-**

10      **methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (Compound 75)**



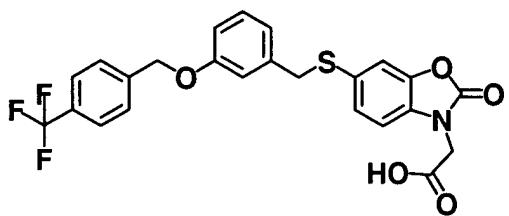
75

15      **Compound 75D** was reacted in a manner analogous to **Compound 59** to give the title product; 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.94 (s(br), 1H), ppm 2.0 (s, 3 H) 3.7 (s, 3 H) 4.1 (s, 2 H) 4.7 (s, 2 H) 6.5 (s, 1 H) 7.0 (s, 1 H) 7.3 (dd, *J*=8.5, 1.7 Hz, 1 H) 7.4 (m, 2 H) 7.6 (m, 3 H) 8.2 (td, *J*=7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1 H). MS *m/z* 454 (M+1).

20

**Example 76**

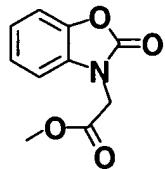
**Synthesis of {2-Oxo-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-benzoxazol-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 76)**



76

25

**Step 1. Preparation of (2-Oxo-benzooxazol-3-yl)-acetic acid (compound 76A)**



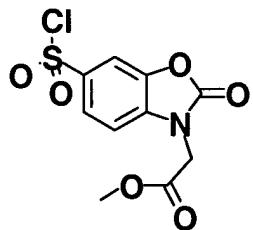
5

**76A**

Compound **76A** was prepared analogously to compound **49A** using 3H-benzooxazol-2-one. Yield was 89%. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.1-7.22 (m, 3H), 6.85 (d, 1H), 4.54 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H).

10

**Step 2. Preparation of (6-Chlorosulfonyl-2-oxo-benzooxazo-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 76B)**

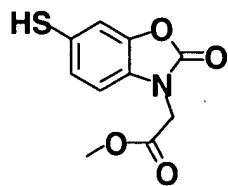


**76B**

15

Compound **76B**, a pink oil was prepared analogously to compound **21B** using the product prepared from compound **76A**. Yield was 95%. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.89 (d, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.01 (d, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H).

**Step 3. Preparation of (6-Mercapto-2-oxo-benzooxazol-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 76C)**

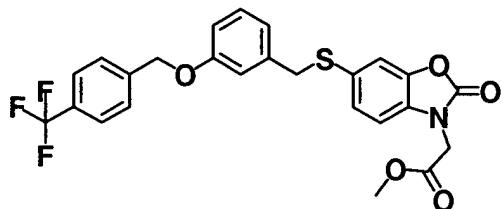


76C

5

Compound 76C was prepared analogously to compound 21C using the product prepared from compound 76B. Yield was 65%. MS *m/z* 238 (M-1).

**Step 4. Preparation of {2-Oxo-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-benzooxazol-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester  
(compound 76D)**



76D

15 Compound 76D was prepared analogously to compound 21D using the product prepared from compound 76C and 6B. Yield was 25% after flash column purification. MS *m/z* 504 (M+1). 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.61-6.71 (m, 11H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 4.50 (s, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H).

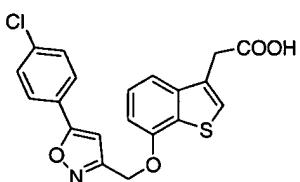
**20 Step 5. Synthesis of {2-Oxo-6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylsulfanyl]-benzooxazol-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 76).**

Compound 76 was prepared analogously to compound 21 in 95% yield. MS *m/z* 488 (M-1). 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 7.58-6.75 (m, 11H), 5.25 (s, 2H), 5.07 (s, 2H), 4.25 (s, 2H).

**Example 77**

**Synthesis of {7-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 77)**

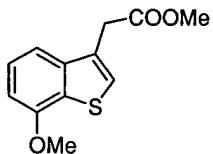
5



77

**Step 1. Preparation of (7-Methoxybenzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)acetic acid methyl ester (compound 77A)**

10

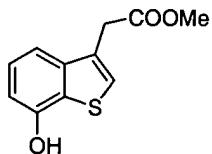


77A

A solution of compound **5A** (5.7g, 22mmol) in ~30mL of dichloromethane was added dropwise to 20mL of methanesulfonic acid, stirred at room temp. After 45min the mixture was poured over ~300g of ice, stirred for an hour, then extracted twice with

15 EtOAc. The combined extracts were washed with water, then saturated brine, then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on a column of silica gel in CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc (95:5) to afford 4.5g of clear amber oil, suitable for use without further purification.

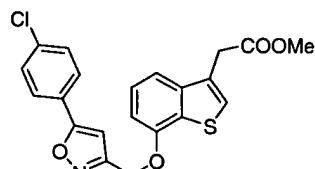
20 **Step 2. Preparation of (7-Hydroxy-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)acetic acid methyl ester (compound 77B)**



77B

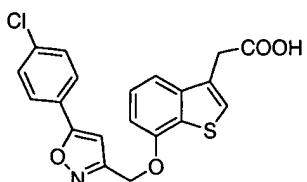
29mL of boron tribromide (1M in dichloromethane) was added slowly dropwise to a stirred solution of compound **77A** from the preceding step (4.5g, 19mmol) in 100mL of dichloromethane under N<sub>2</sub> at icebath temperature. An hour after the addition, 60mL of 15% aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added slowly dropwise, the mixture was stirred for an additional 5 30min, then the layers allowed to separate. The organic layer was washed with water, then sat brine, then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was chromatographed on a silica gel column in CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc (9:1) to afford a clear, amber oil. Crystallization began after several hours under vacuum. The product was recrystallized from 55-60mL of chloroform/hexanes (1:1). After filtration to remove 10 the first crop of regio-isomeric material, the mother liquor was stripped of solvent *in vacuo*, and the residue recrystallized from chloroform to yield 0.14g (3% yield) of the title compound as a white powder, mp 147-148°C, of sufficient purity for use in the next step.

**15 Step 3. Preparation of {7-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound **77C**)**

**77C**

20 Cesium carbonate (0.31g, 90mmol) was added to a stirred solution of compound **77B** from the preceding step (0.14 g, 0.63mmol) and commercially available 3-chloromethyl-5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazole (0.14g, 0.63mmol) in 15-20mL of acetonitrile at room temp. After 20 hours the mixture was stripped of solvent *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in dichloromethane and filtered through a short column of Celite® over silica 25 gel, eluting with several column volumes of solvent. The filtrate was stripped of solvent *in vacuo*, and the residue recrystallized from DMF to afford 0.1g (38% yield) of the title compound as a snow-white solid; mp 155-156°C. Calc for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNO<sub>4</sub>S: C 60.94; H 3.90; N 3.38 found:C, 60.67, H, 3.72, N, 3.41

**Step 4. Preparation of {7-[5-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 77D)**



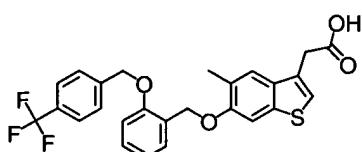
5

Lithium hydroxide (0.024g, 0.58mmol) was added to a stirred suspension of compound 77C from the preceding step (0.06g, 0.15mmol) in 8mL of tetrahydrofuran/water (3:2) at room temperature. After 18 hours the resulting clear solution was diluted with 75mL of water, stirred, and acidified with aq HCl. After ~1 hour the precipitate was filtered off, rinsed 3x with water, and dried to afford 0.04g (69% yield) of the title compound as a white solid; mp 229-230°C (dec).

Calc for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>CINO<sub>4</sub>S: C 60.08; H 3.53; N 3.50 found: C, 59.44, H, 3.44, N, 3.29

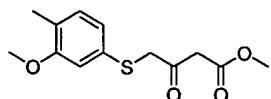
15 Example 78

## Synthesis of {5-Methyl-6-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]-thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 78)



78

**Step 1. Preparation of 4-(3-Methoxy-phenylsulfanyl)-3-oxo-butyric acid methyl ester (compound 78A)**

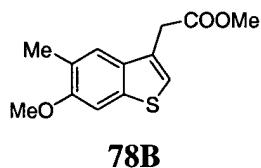


78A

25 Cesium carbonate (21.0g, 63mmol) was added to a stirred solution of commercially available 3-methoxy-4-methyl-benzenethiol (6.5g, 42mmol) and commercially available

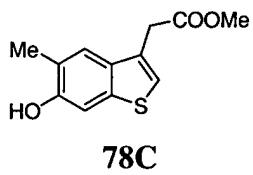
4-chloro-3-oxo-butyric acid methyl ester (6.4g, 42.5mmol) in 100mL of acetonitrile under N<sub>2</sub>. After 18 hours the mixture was filtered through Celite®, the residue was washed with acetonitrile, and the filtrate and washings were stripped of solvent *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate and filtered through a short column of silica gel, eluting with several volumes of solvent. The effluent was stripped of solvent *in vacuo*, leaving the title compound as a clear, amber oil of sufficient purity for use in the next step.

5                   **Step 2. Preparation of (6-Methoxy-5-methyl-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 78B)**



10                  A solution of compound 78A from the preceding step (8.6g, 32mmol) in 30mL of dichloromethane was added dropwise to 30mL of methanesulfonic acid stirred under N<sub>2</sub> at icebath temperature. The mixture was allowed to warm gradually to room temperature. After an hour 200mL of icewater was cautiously added (vigorous reaction!), then the mixture was partitioned between a total of 300mL of water and 350-400mL of dichloromethane. The organic layer was drawn off and washed with water, then 0.5M aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*, and the residue dissolved in a minimum of CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc (24:1) and passed slowly through a column of silica gel, eluting with several column volumes of the same solvent. The effluent was stripped of solvent *in vacuo* to leave the title compound as a clear amber syrup, contaminated with the other possible regio-isomer, but of sufficient purity for the next step.

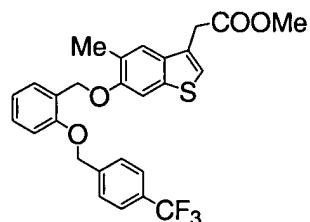
15                  **Step 3. Preparation of (6-Hydroxy-5-methyl-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 78C)**



5      10mL of boron tribromide (1.0M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of compound **78B** from the preceding step (2.1g, 8.4mmol) in 15-20mL of dichloro-methane under N<sub>2</sub> at icebath temperature. The mixture was allowed to warm gradually to room temperature. After 18 hours 20mL of sat aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added dropwise with icebath cooling, and followed after several minutes by 100mL of water. The mixture was  
 10     extracted with dichloromethane (100, 50, 50mL), and the combined extracts washed with water then sat brine, and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on a short column of silica gel in chloroform to afford 0.4g (20%) of the title compound as a yellow, crystalline solid of sufficient purity for further reactions.

15

**Step 4. Preparation of {5-Methyl-6-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 78D)**

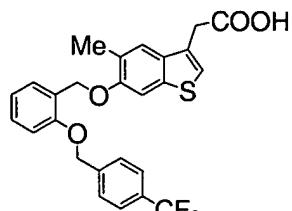


20

The title compound was prepared using compound **78C** from the preceding step and compound **7A** in a manner analogous to compound **77B**. Thus, recrystallization from methanol afforded 0.42g (43% yield) of the title compound as a cream-colored powder, mp 108-109°C. Calc for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>23</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S: C 64.79; H 4.63; found: C, 64.64, H, 4.46.

25

**Step 5. Preparation of {5-Methyl-6-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 78)**



78

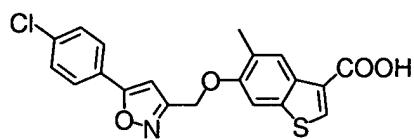
5 The title compound was prepared using compound **78D** from the preceding step and compound **7A** in a manner analogous to compound **77**. Thus, chromatography on silica gel in ethyl acetate followed by trituration in ethanol afforded 0.16g (86% yield) of the title compound as a white solid; mp 157-158°C. Calc for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S: C 64.19; H 4.35; found: C, 63.43, H, 4.04

10

### Example 79

#### Synthesis of {5-Methyl-6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 79)

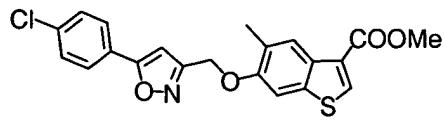
15



79

#### **Step 1. Preparation of {5-Methyl-6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 79A)**

20

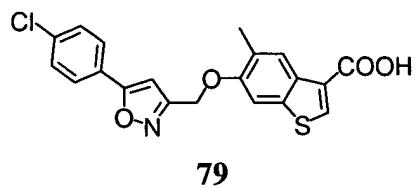


79A

25 The title compound was prepared from commercially available 3-chloromethyl-5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazole and compound **78C** in a manner analogous to compound **77C**.

Thus, chromatography on silica gel in an ethyl acetate/hexanes gradient afforded 0.01g (34% yield) of the title compound as a crystalline solid; mp 135-139°C. Calc for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ClNO<sub>4</sub>S: C 61.75; H 4.24; N 3.27; found: C, 61.77, H, 4.36, N, 3.05.

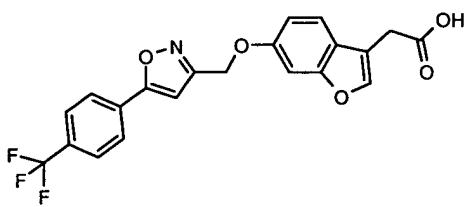
5   **Step 2. Preparation of {5-Methyl-6-[5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 79)**



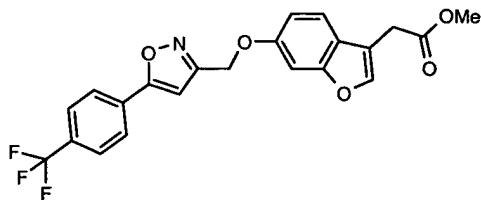
10

Compound 79A (0.03g, 0.07mmol) from the preceding step was dissolved in 2-3mL of tetrahydrofuran, an equal volume of 2N KOH was added, and the mixture stirred at room temp. After 18 hours 75mL of icewater was added and the mixture was acidified with H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. After ~30min the precipitate was filtered off, rinsed 3x with water, and dried. The 15 product was triturated in 4N HCl, allowed to stand for an hour, then filtered off, rinsed with water then ethanol, and dried to afford 0.01g (99%) of the title compound as a white powder; mp 198-200°C (dec). MS *m/z* 413 (M).

20   **Synthesis of {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 80)**



25   **Step 1. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl -phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 80A)**

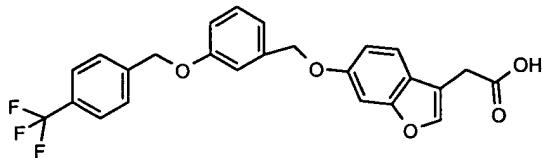
**80A**

5 A solution of (6-hydroxy-benzofuran-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester (0.60 g, 2.9 mmol) and 3-chloromethyl-5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazole (0.77 g, 2.9 mmol) (**13C**) were combined in 20 ml of acetonitrile. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 64 hours and then heated at 50°C for three hours. The mixture was filtered, and the insoluble material was washed on the funnel several times with fresh acetonitrile. The  
10 bulk of the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was partitioned between 300 ml of ethyl acetate and 150 ml of brine. The layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with fresh ethyl acetate (2x100 ml). The combined organic layers were back-washed with brine (2x250 ml), then dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated. The crude product was purified by normal phase chromatography. mp  
15 127-128 °C; MS *m/z* 432 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[5-(4-Trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 80)**

20 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **24** using {6-[5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-isoxazol-3-ylmethoxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (**80A**) and lithium hydroxide. mp 201 °C (decompose); IR (thin film)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 1711, 1600, 1433, 1319, 1228, 1143; 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.40 (br s, 1H), 8.08 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz), 7.86 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.45 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz), 7.35 (s, 1H),  
25 7.30 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 6.93 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.3, 2.2 Hz), 5.27 (s, 2H), 3.60 (s, 2H); MS *m/z* 416 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_5$ : C, 60.44; H, 3.38; N, 3.36; found: 60.49; H, 3.23; N, 3.34.

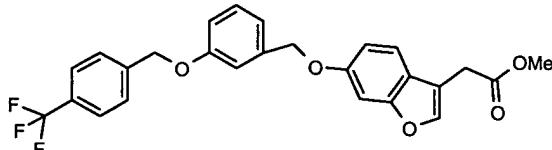
**Synthesis of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 81)**



5

**81**

**Step 1. Preparation of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 81A)**



10

**81A**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to step 1 of Example 80 using (6-hydroxy-benzofuran-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester and 1-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-3-chloromethyl-benzene. MS *m/z* 471 (M+1).

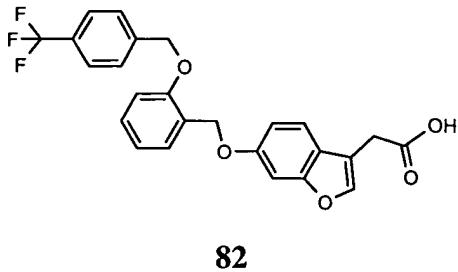
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**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[3-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 81)**

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 24 using {6-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester and lithium hydroxide. mp 155-157 °C; IR (thin film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1722, 1585, 1492, 1319, 1157, 1114; 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.39 (br s, 1H), 7.69-7.71 (m, 3H), 7.62 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.41 (d, 1H, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.26 (t, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.18 (d, 1H, J = 2.2 Hz), 7.08-7.09 (m, 1H), 7.00 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 6.88-6.94 (m, 2H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 3.58 (s, 2H); MS *m/z* 455 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 65.79; H, 4.20; found: C, 65.60; H, 4.08.

**Synthesis of {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 82)**

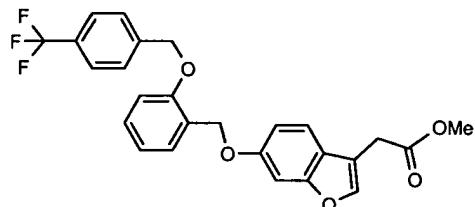
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82

**Step 1. Preparation of {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester (compound 82A)**

10

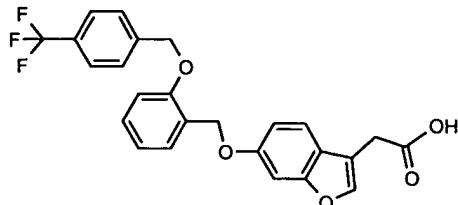


82A

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to step 1 of Example 80 using  
15 (6-hydroxy-benzofuran-3-yl)-acetic acid methyl ester and 1-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-2-chloromethyl-benzene. MS *m/z* 471 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of {6-[2-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid (compound 82)**

20



## 82

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example 24 using {6-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzyloxy]-benzofuran-3-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester and lithium hydroxide. mp 126-127 °C; IR (thin film)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 1716, 1624, 1494, 1320, 1231, 1109; 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.39 (br s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.61-7.67 (m, 4H), 7.39-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.20 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 7.06 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 6.90-6.95 (m, 2H), 5.27 (s, 2H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 3.59 (s, 2H); MS  $m/z$  455 (M-1). Anal. Calc'd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{19}\text{F}_3\text{O}_5$ : C, 65.79; H, 4.20; found: C, 65.75; H, 4.02.

10

Compounds of the present invention may be prepared using combinatorial chemistry methods. In particular, compounds of Examples 101-207 were prepared using combinatorial chemistry analogous to the previously described Examples above. The combinatorial chemistry methods useful in the present invention include those where an activated alcohol or alkyl halide is contacted with a thiol followed by saponification of the resulting ester to afford the desired products. Such methods are illustrated by the previously described schemes, for example, Schemes 10 and 11.

## Examples 101-207

20

Example No.	Name	MS m/z	m
101	{4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-butylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	445.22	m+1
102	{4-[3-(Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-propylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	466.36	m+1
103	[5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-(3-naphthalen-2-yl-propylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	395.42	m-1
104	{4-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-butylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	413.18	m-1

<b>105</b>	[5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-(3-methyl-4-pentyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	403.33	m+1
<b>106</b>	{4-[2-(Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	452.34	m+1
<b>107</b>	{5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-[2-(2,4,5-trichloro-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid	452.15	m+1
<b>108</b>	{4-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	415.3	m-1
<b>109</b>	{4-[2-(4-Chloro-phenylsulfanyl)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	397.35	m-1
<b>110</b>	{4-[4-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	437.31	m+1
<b>111</b>	{4-[3-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-propylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	363.44	m-1
<b>112</b>	{4-[4-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	423.29	m+1
<b>113</b>	[2-Methyl-4-(3-naphthalen-2-yl-propylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	365.45	m-1
<b>114</b>	{4-[2-(Biphenyl-4-yl-propyl-amino)-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	436.35	m+1
<b>115</b>	{5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-[2-(5-phenyl-naphthalen-1-yloxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid	473.31	m-1
<b>116</b>	(4-{2-[(4-Benzyl-phenyl)-ethyl-amino]-ethylsulfanyl}-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid	466.36	m+1
<b>117</b>	{4-[4-(2,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	387.26	m+1
<b>118</b>	[5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-(5-methyl-2-pentyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	403.31	m+1
<b>119</b>	{4-[2-(4-Benzoyl-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	423.24	m+1
<b>120</b>	{4-[4-(Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-butylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	480.38	m+1

<b>121</b>	{4-[4-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-2,6-dimethyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	437.29	m+1
<b>122</b>	[4-(7-Benzyl-oxo-heptylsulfanyl)-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	433.36	m+1
<b>123</b>	{4-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	369.35	m-1
<b>124</b>	{4-[3-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-propylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	333.45	m-1
<b>125</b>	{4-[4-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy}-acetic acid	463.33	m+1
<b>126</b>	{4-[2-(4-Benzoyl-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	453.27	m+1
<b>127</b>	{4-[2-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	401.14	m+1
<b>128</b>	{4-[4-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid	409.09	m+1
<b>129</b>	{4-[2-(4-sec-Butyl-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	403.31	m-1
<b>130</b>	[4-(5-Chloro-benzo[b]thiophen-3-ylmethylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	417.29	m-1
<b>131</b>	[4-(9H-Fluoren-1-ylmethylsulfanyl)-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	407.25	m+1
<b>132</b>	{4-[2-(Biphenyl-4-yl-ethyl-amino)-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	422.29	m+1
<b>133</b>	{4-[2-(4-Bromo-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-2,6-dimethyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	409.08	m-1
<b>134</b>	[2-Methyl-4-(2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	351.46	m-1
<b>135</b>	{4-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	403.47	m-1
<b>136</b>	{2-Methyl-4-[2-(2,4,5-trichloro-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid	420.13	m+1
<b>137</b>	[2-Methyl-4-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	355.3	m-1
<b>138</b>	(4-{2-[4-(1,1-Dimethyl-propyl)-phenoxy]-ethylsulfanyl}-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid	417.48	m-1

<b>139</b>	[4-(4-tert-Butyl-benzylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	343.38	m-1
<b>140</b>	{4-[2-(Butyl-naphthalen-1-ylmethyl-amino)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	468.38	m+1
<b>141</b>	[4-(2,6-Dichloro-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	397.25	m+1
<b>142</b>	{4-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-ethylsulfanyl]-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy}-acetic acid	391.28	m+1
<b>143</b>	{4-[3-(2-Chloro-phenoxy)-propylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	365.39	m-1
<b>144</b>	[4-(3,4-Dichloro-benzylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	355.24	m-1
<b>145</b>	{4-[2-(4-sec-Butyl-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	373.27	m-1
<b>146</b>	(4-{2-[Ethyl-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-amino]-ethylsulfanyl}-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid	444.3	m+1
<b>147</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(4-phenoxy-butylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	359.4	m-1
<b>148</b>	[4-(2-Trifluoromethoxy-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	411.34	m-1
<b>149</b>	(4-{2-[(4-Benzyl-phenyl)-ethyl-amino]-ethylsulfanyl}-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid	436.33	m+1
<b>150</b>	[4-(3-Trifluoromethylsulfanyl-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	429.31	m+1
<b>151</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	369.32	m-1
<b>152</b>	{4-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenyl)-ethylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	389.28	m+1
<b>153</b>	[2-Methyl-4-(naphthalen-2-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	337.35	m-1
<b>154</b>	{5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-[2-(2-phenyl-benzimidazol-1-yl)-ethylsulfanyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid	449.28	m+1
<b>155</b>	[4-(3,4-Dichloro-benzylsulfanyl)-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	369.25	m-1
<b>156</b>	{4-[2-(4-Isopropyl-2-methyl-phenyl)-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	357.49	m-1

<b>157</b>	[4-(6-Chloro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	405.32	m-1
<b>158</b>	[5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-(2-naphthalen-2-yl-ethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	383.23	m+1
<b>159</b>	[4-(4-tert-Butyl-benzylsulfanyl)-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	357.4	m-1
<b>160</b>	[2-Methyl-4-(3-trifluoromethylsulfanyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	387.26	m-1
<b>161</b>	[4-(3,4-Dichloro-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	395.28	m-1
<b>162</b>	[4-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	355.38	m-1
<b>163</b>	{4-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenoxy)-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	373.1	m-1
<b>164</b>	{4-[5-(7-Chloro-quinolin-4-ylamino)-pentylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	475.25	m+1
<b>165</b>	[4-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	315.36	m-1
<b>166</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(3-trifluoromethylsulfanyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	401.28	m-1
<b>167</b>	[5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-(2-naphthalen-1-yl-ethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	381.44	m-1
<b>168</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(naphthalen-2-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	351.37	m-1
<b>169</b>	[4-(Naphthalen-2-ylmethylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	377.38	m-1
<b>170</b>	[4-(5-Chloro-benzo[b]thiophen-3-ylmethylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	377.23	m-1
<b>171</b>	{4-[4-(2,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-2,6-dimethyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	385.25	m-1
<b>172</b>	[4-(5-Chloro-benzo[b]thiophen-3-ylmethylsulfanyl)-2,6-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	391.26	m-1
<b>173</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(2-trifluoromethylsulfanyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	401.17	m-1
<b>174</b>	(4-{2-[Ethyl-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-amino]-ethylsulfanyl}-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid	414.26	m+1

<b>175</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(3-phenoxy-propylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	345.34	m-1
<b>176</b>	[4-(6-Chloro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	365.28	m-1
<b>177</b>	{4-[4-(4-Ethyl-phenyl)-4-oxo-butylsulfanyl]-phenoxy }-acetic acid	359.19	m+1
<b>178</b>	[4-(3-Benzyl-oxo-propylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	387.36	m+1
<b>179</b>	[4-(3-Phenyl-propylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	357.28	m+1
<b>180</b>	[2-Methyl-4-(3-methyl-4-pentyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	371.28	m-1
<b>181</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(3-phenyl-propylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	331.37	m+1
<b>182</b>	[4-(4-tert-Butyl-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	383.42	m-1
<b>183</b>	[4-(2-Trifluoromethoxy-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	357.29	m-1
<b>184</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(2-naphthalen-1-yl-ethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	367.36	m+1
<b>185</b>	(2-Methyl-4-{2-[3-(2-phenyl-quinazolin-4-ylamino)-propylsulfanyl]-ethylsulfanyl}-phenoxy)-acetic acid	520.33	m+1
<b>186</b>	[4-(3-Trifluoromethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	397.32	m+1
<b>187</b>	[2-Methyl-4-(5-methyl-2-pentyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	371.28	m-1
<b>188</b>	[4-(5-Chloro-benzo[b]thiophen-3-ylmethylsulfanyl)-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	391.26	m-1
<b>189</b>	[4-(3-Methoxy-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	359.32	m+1
<b>190</b>	[4-(6-Chloro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl)-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	379.31	m-1
<b>191</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(4-methyl-naphthalen-1-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	365.38	m-1
<b>192</b>	[4-(4-Trifluoromethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy]-acetic acid	395.34	m-1

<b>193</b>	[4-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	329.38	m-1
<b>194</b>	[4-(2-Fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-2,6-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	387.16	m-1
<b>195</b>	{4-[4-(2,5-Dimethoxy-3,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-butylsulfanyl]-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	461.39	m-1
<b>196</b>	{4-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	351.25	m+1
<b>197</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(2-trifluoromethoxy-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	385.32	m-1
<b>198</b>	[2,5-Dimethyl-4-(2-oxo-2-p-tolyl-ethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	345.35	m+1
<b>199</b>	{4-[2-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	347.32	m+1
<b>200</b>	[2-Methyl-4-(4-methyl-naphthalen-1-ylmethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	351.36	m-1
<b>201</b>	{4-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenylsulfanyl)-ethylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	389.24	m-1
<b>202</b>	[4-(2,6-Dichloro-benzylsulfanyl)-2-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid	369.24	m-1
<b>203</b>	{4-[2-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-ethylsulfanyl]-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy }-acetic acid	385.37	m-1
<b>204</b>	[2,6-Dimethyl-4-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	369.31	m-1
<b>205</b>	{4-[2-(4-Acetyl-phenyl)-ethylsulfanyl]-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	359.35	m+1
<b>206</b>	[2,6-Dimethyl-4-(2-oxo-2-p-tolyl-ethylsulfanyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid	343.32	m-1
<b>207</b>	{4-[5-(7-Chloro-quinolin-4-ylamino)-pentylsulfanyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid	445.21	m+1

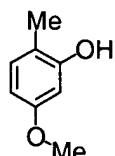
The preparation of Examples 101-207 is further described below.

### Preparation of Thiols used in Combinatorial Methods

#### Thiol A

##### Step 1. Preparation of 5-Methoxy-2-methyl-phenol (compound TAA)

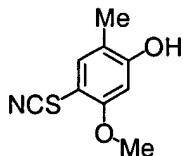
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TAA

2-Hydroxy-4-methoxy-benzaldehyde (3 g, 19.7 mmol), ammonium formate (6.2 g, 99 mmol) and palladium/carbon (900 mg @ 10%) were added to 26 ml glacial acetic acid  
10 and heated at 110 °C for 1 h. The reaction was cooled, filtered, and diluted with water (100 ml). The crude product was extracted with chloroform (3x50 ml), washed with water, brine, and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The resulting solution was concentrated and used for the next step without further purification. MS *m/z* 139 (M+1).

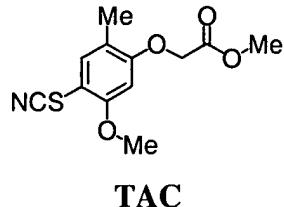
15    **Step 2. Preparation of 5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-thiocyanato-phenol (compound TAB)**



TAB

The product from **Example TAA** (3.5 g, 25 mmol), sodium thiocyanate (6.48 g, 80 mmol), and sodium bromide (2.6 g, 25 mmol) were dissolved in 30 ml anhydrous  
20 methanol. Bromine (4.4 g, 28 mmol) was added drop wise over 15 minutes and allowed to stir at ambient temperature for 1 h. Brine was added (50 ml) and the crude product was extracted into ethyl acetate (3x100 ml). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted, and concentrated to afford the  
25 title product in good purity. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.13 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.0 (s, 3H); MS *m/z* 196 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation of (5-Methoxy-2-methyl-4-thiocyanato-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TAC)**

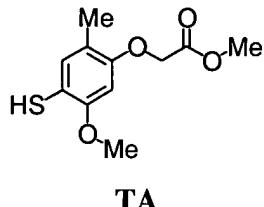


5

The product from **Example TAB** (620 mg, 3.2 mmol), methyl bromoacetate (854 mg, 3.5 mmol), and cesium carbonate (3.1 g, 9.6 mmol) were stirred in 10 ml anhydrous acetonitrile at ambient temperature for 1 h. The reaction was filtered through Celite®, concentrated, and purified using normal phase chromatography. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR

10 (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.33 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  268 (M+1).

**Step 4. Preparation of (4-Mercapto-5-methoxy-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TA)**

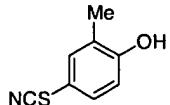


15

The product from **Example TAC** (1.1 g, 4.1 mmol) and dithiothreitol (824 mg, 5.4 mmol) were dissolved in 20 ml methanol with 2.5 ml water. The solution was refluxed 20 for 4 h, cooled, concentrated, and purified by normal phase chromatography. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.02 (s, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 4.79 (s, 2H), 4.41 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  243 (M+1).

**Thiol B**

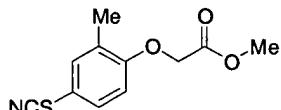
25 **Step 1. Preparation of 2-Methyl-4-thiocyanato-phenol (compound TBA)**



**TBA**

The title compound was prepared in a manner analogous to **Example TAB** from 2-methylphenol. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.09 (s, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.30 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz), 6.83 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz), 2.08 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  166 (M+1).

**Step 2. Preparation of (2-Methyl-4-thiocyanato-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TBB)**



**TBB**

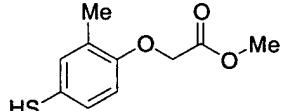
10

The title compound was prepared from **Example TBA** in a manner analogous to

**Example TAC.** 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.46 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz),

15 6.80 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 4.86 (s, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  238 (M+1).

**Step 3. Preparation of (4-Mercapto-2-methyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TB)**



**TB**

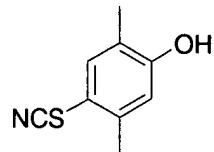
20

The title compound was prepared from (2-methyl-4-thiocyanato-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester in a manner analogous to **Example TA.** 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.05 (s, 1H), 7.00 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 10.3 Hz), 6.70 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 10.3 Hz), 5.00 (s, 1H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  213 (M+1).

25

**Thiol C**

**Preparation of 2,5-Dimethyl-4-thiocyanato-phenol (compound TCA)**



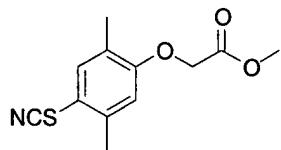
**TCA**

5

The title compound was prepared in a manner analogous to compound TAB.

400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.0 (s, 1H), 7.35 (s, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 2.3 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  180 (m+1).

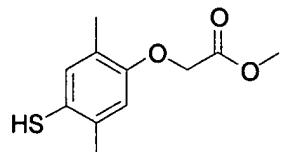
10 **Preparation of (2,5-Dimethyl-4-thiocyanato-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TCB)**



**TCB**

15 The title compound was prepared from compound **TCA** in a manner analogous to compound **TAC**. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.07 (s, 1H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 4.56 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), (s, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  252 (m+1).

20 **Preparation of (4-Mercapto-2,5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TC)**



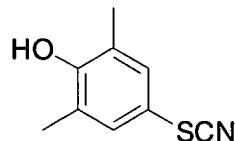
**TC**

The title compound was prepared from compound **TCB** in a manner analogous to compound **TA**. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.07 (s, 1H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 4.56 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.07 (s, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); MS  $m/z$  227 (M+1).

5

**Thiol D**

**Preparation of 2,6-Dimethyl-4-thiocyanato-phenol (compound DA)**



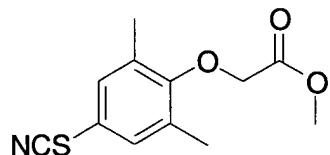
**TDA**

10

Compound **TDA** was prepared from 2,6-dimethylphenol in a similar manner as described for compound **TAB**. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.96 (s, 1H), 7.22 (s, 2H), 2.13 (s, 6H).

15

**Preparation of (2,6-Dimethyl-4-thiocyanato-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TDB)**

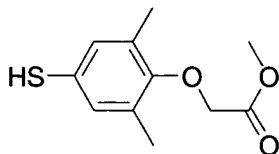


**TDB**

20

Compound **TDB** was prepared from compound **TDA** in a similar manner as described for compound **TAC** to give 2.5 g (46%) of the title compound pure enough for subsequent use. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.11 (s, 2H), 4.41 (s, 2H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 6H).

**Preparation of (4-Mercapto-2,6-dimethyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester  
(compound TD)**



5

**TD**

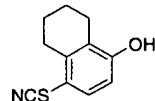
Compound **TD** was prepared from compound **TDB** in a similar manner as described for compound **TA** to give, after purification by flash column chromatography (gradient elution: 100% hexanes to 30% EtOAc/hexanes), 1.8 g (82%) of the title compound. 400

10 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  6.90 (s, 2H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 6H); MS  $m/z$  225 (M-1).

**Thiol E**

**Preparation of 4-Thiocyanato-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-ol (compound TEA)**

15



**TEA**

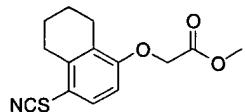
5,6,7,8-Tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-ol (1g, 6.8 mmol) was dissolved in 25 ml acetonitrile.

20 Sodium thiocyanate (1.76 g, 22 mmol) and sodium bromide (0.7 g, 6.8 mmol) were added and stirred for 5 minutes at ambient temperature. Bromine (1.2 g, 7.48 mmol) was added drop wise over 5 minutes. The orange solution was allowed to stir two hours. Brine was added and the crude product was extracted twice into ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed once with brine, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, decanted and concentrated. Normal phase chromatography afforded the title product, 1.28 g, 92%. 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  11.1 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, 1H, J =

8.8 Hz), 6.61 (d, 1H, 8.8 Hz), 2.78 (m, 2H), 2.59 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 4H). MS *m/z* 278 (m+1)

**Preparation of (4-Thiocyanato-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy)-acetic acid**

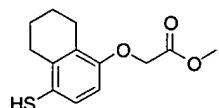
**5 methyl ester (compound TEB)**



**TEB**

10 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **TAC** utilizing compound **TEA**. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.4 (d, 1H, J = 8.8 Hz), 6.80 (d, 1H, 8.8 Hz), 4.84 (s, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.78 (m, 2H), 2.59 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 4H). MS *m/z* 278 (m+1).

**15 Preparation of (4-Mercapto-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TE)**

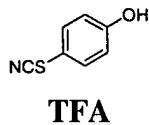


**TE**

20 The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to example **TA** utilizing compound **TEB**. 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.08 (d, 1H, J = 8.8 Hz), 6.55 (d, 1H, 8.8 Hz), 4.71 (s, 1H), 4.70 (s, 2H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.45 (m, 2H), 2.44 (m, 2H), 1.65 (m, 4H). MS *m/z* 253 (M+1).

**Thiol F**

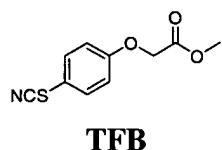
**Preparation of 4-Thiocyanato-phenol (compound TFA)**



5

The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to Example TAB using phenol. MS *m/z* 152 (M+1)

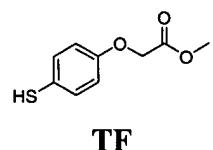
**10 Preparation of [(4-Thiocyanato-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TFB)]**



The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to Example TAC using TFA. MS *m/z* 224 (M+1)

15

**Preparation of (4-Mercapto-phenoxy)-acetic acid methyl ester (compound TF)**



The title compound was prepared in the manner analogous to Example A using TFB.

20 MS *m/z* 197 (M-1)

**Preparation of Examples 101-207**

**25 Alcohol Preparation:**

The appropriate alcohols in the salt form (0.65mmol) were dissolved in 3.0mL of low water MeOH. MP-CO<sub>3</sub> (3.21 mmol/g, 3.70 equivalents to alcohol, 2.41mmol) was then added to each vial containing the alcohol and shaken at ambient temperature for 3h. The samples were then filtered into tared vials and concentrated.

**Alcohol Activation:**

Each alcohol sample was then diluted to 0.15M with DCM and 1.0mL of each delivered to a reaction tube. PS-morpholine (4.0 mmol/g, 2 equivalents to alcohol, 0.3mmol) and 5 25 µL methanesulfonyl chloride was then added to each reaction tube. The reaction tubes were shaken at ambient temperature for 16h. The samples were then filtered into collection tubes, the resin rinsed with two 1.0mL aliquots of DCM, and concentrated.

**Alkylation:**

10 Examples **101-207** were synthesized in the following fashion using either the thiol products **TA-TF** and the appropriate activated alcohol or alkyl halide. Each thiol was diluted to 0.15M with CH<sub>3</sub>CN and each activated alcohol diluted to 0.15M with CH<sub>3</sub>CN. 1.0mL aliquots of each thiol (0.15 mmol) and 1.0mL aliquots of each activated alcohol (1.0 equivalents, 0.15mmol) were then delivered to a reaction tube and 100mg Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2 15 equivalents, 0.3mmol) was added. The reaction tubes were shaken at 60°C for 2.5h. The reacion mixtures were filtered into collection tubes, the resin rinsed with two 1.0mL aliquots of CH<sub>3</sub>CN, and concentrated.

20 **Saponification:**

Examples **101-207** were synthesized in the following fashion using the products from the alkylation step discussed above. Each alkylation product was diluted with 3.0mL of 0.5M LiOH in 4:1 methoxyethanol:H<sub>2</sub>O, shaken at 60°C for 4h and cooled to ambient 25 temperature. To each reaction, was then added 1.0mL 1N HCl and 1.0mL brine. Each reaction was extracted twice with 2.0mL EtOAc, and the organic layers concentrated to afford the desired products.

## BIOLOGICAL ASSAYS

The compounds of the present invention have demonstrated PPAR modulating activity in the standard assays commonly employed by those skilled in the art.

5 Accordingly, such compounds and formulations comprising such compounds are useful for treating, preventing or controlling dyslipidemia in a mammal.

### A. Selectivity Measurements

10 1. Test A. Transient transfections assay using the HepG2 hepatoma cell line.

HepG2 cells were transiently transfected with an expression plasmids encoding hPPAR $\alpha$ , hPPAR $\beta$  or mPPAR $\gamma$  chimeric receptors and a reporter containing the yeast upstream activating sequence (UAS) upstream of the viral E1B promoter controlling a 15 luciferase reporter gene. In addition, the plasmid pRSV $\beta$ -gal was used to control for transfection efficiency. HepG2 cells were grown in DMEM supplemented with 10%FBS and 1 $\mu$ M non-essential amino acid. On the first day, cells were split into 100mm dishes at  $2.5 \times 10^6$ /dish and incubated overnight at 37°C/5% CO<sub>2</sub>. On the second day the cells were transiently transfected with plasmid DNA encoding a chimeric receptor, the luciferase 20 reporter gene; and  $\beta$ -gal. For each 100 mm dish, 15 $\mu$ g of lucifease reporter (PG5E1b) DNA, 15 $\mu$ g of Gal4-PPAR chimeric receptor DNA, and 1.5 $\mu$ g of  $\beta$ -gal plasmid DNA were mixed with 1.4ml of opti-MEM in the tube. 28 $\mu$ l of Lipofectamine-2000 reagent was added to 1.4ml of opti-MEM in the tube, and incubate for 5 min at RT. The diluted Lipofectamine-2000 reagent was combined with the DNA mixture, and incubate for 20 25 min at RT. After fresh medium was added to each 100mm dish of cells, 2.8ml of Lipofectamine2000-DNA mixture was added dropwise to the 100mm dish containing 14ml of medium, and incubate 37°C overnight. On day three cells were trypsinized off the 100 mm dishes and re-plated on 96 well plates. Cells were plated at  $2.5 \times 10^4$  cells per well in 150 $\mu$ l of media and 50 $\mu$ l of compound diluted by media was added. The 30 concentrations of reference agents and test compound added were in the range from 50 $\mu$ M to 50pM. After addition of compounds, the plates were incubated at 37°C for 24

hours. Subsequently cells were washed once with 100 $\mu$ l of PBS, lysed, and processed for measuring luciferase and  $\beta$ -gal activity using Dual-Light luciferase kit from Tropix ®, according to the manufacturer's recommendations, on an EG&G Bethold MicroLumat LB96P luminometer. Hep G2-hBeta EC<sub>50</sub> values ("EC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$ ") and Hep G2-hAlpha EC<sub>50</sub>.

5 values, ("EC<sub>50</sub> $\alpha$ ") were obtained using the GraphPad Prism™ program. EC<sub>50</sub> is the concentration at which the PPAR mediated transcriptional response reaches one-half of its maximal response. Surprisingly, the compounds of the present invention exhibit activity for both PPAR $\alpha$  and PPAR $\beta$ . Accordingly, the compounds of the present invention should find considerable therapeutic applications for *inter alia*

10 hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipidemia.

Compounds of the invention exhibit a range of EC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$  values of less than about 21,650 nM. Preferred compounds of the invention exhibit a range of EC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$  values of less than about 12,410 nM. See, for example, Compound 10-Example 10 which has an EC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$  of 6660 nM. More preferred compounds of the invention exhibit a range EC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$  values of 15 less than about 1073 nM. See, for example, Compound 21- Example 21 which has an EC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$  of 303 nM. Compounds of the present invention exhibit a range of EC<sub>50</sub> $\alpha$  values of less than about 15,000 nM. See, for example, Compound 36-Example 36 which has an EC<sub>50</sub> $\alpha$  of 1962 nM. Further, compounds of the invention exhibit a range of  $\alpha/\beta$  (EC<sub>50</sub> $\alpha$ /EC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$ ) selectivity values of between about 0.2 and about 1,000.

20

## 2. Test B. Radioligand Binding Assay

The ability of a compound to interact with PPAR $\beta$  can be determined using a competition-based receptor binding assay that employs a radiolabeled PPAR $\beta$  ligand 25 together with a fragment of the PPAR $\beta$  receptor containing the ligand binding domain (LBD) fused to the protein glutathione-S-transferase (GST).

[1] Preparation of PPAR $\beta$  LBD-GST fusion protein. The ligand binding domain of the human PPAR $\beta$  LBD-GST fusion protein can be expressed in E. coli and purified as outlined below. DNA encoding the LBD of human PPAR $\beta$  is amplified via PCR and 30 inserted in-frame into the bacterial expression vector pGEX-2t PPAR $\beta$  LBD-GST fusion

proteins are expressed in BL21(DE3)pLysS cells. After a 1-2 hr incubation with up to 1 mM IPTG, the cells are lysed by freeze-thaw in buffer containing 50 mM Tris (pH = 8), 250 mM KCl, 10 mM DTT, 1 mM PMSF, and 1% triton X-100. After room temperature DNase and RNase treatment for 15 min and centrifugation for 1 hr at 50,000 x g, 1.5 ml  
5 of a glutathione-Sepharose 4B slurry in PBS is added to the resulting supernatant and the mixture is incubated at room temperature for 30 min. PPAR $\beta$  LBD-GST fusion protein glutathione-Sepharose 4B complexes are collected by centrifugation and washed twice in buffer containing 10 mM Tris (pH = 8), 50 mM KCl, and 1 mM DTT. PPAR $\beta$  LBD-GST fusion proteins are eluted from the glutathione-Sepharose 4B with glutathione-elution  
10 buffer.

[2] Assessment of the ability of a compound to interact with PPAR $\beta$ . A competition-based receptor binding assay for measuring interaction of a compound with PPAR $\beta$  can be conducted as outlined below. Volumes of 99  $\mu$ l of buffer (50 mM Tris, 10% Glycerol, 10 mM Na-Molybdate, pH 7.6) containing 50 nM  $^3$  of radiolabelled compound, tritiated  
15 4-(3-(2-propyl-3-hydroxy-4-acetyl-phenoxy)propyloxy)-phenoxy acetic acid (34Ci/mmol), 0.2 mg rabbit anti-beads, 0.24  $\mu$ g rabbit anti-GST and 0.2 $\mu$ g purified GST/PPAR $\beta$ hLBD are placed into the wells of Corning 96-well tissue culture plates. To each well are then added 1  $\mu$ L of DMSO (control), or 1  $\mu$ l of DMSO containing 20  $\mu$ M of non-radiolabeled compound, 4-(3-(2-propyl-3-hydroxy-4-acetyl-phenoxy)propyloxy)-phenoxy acetic acid, for assessment of nonspecific binding, or 1  $\mu$ l of DMSO containing a test compound at a concentration sufficient to give a final assay concentration of between 1 nM and 100  $\mu$ M. After incubation with shaking at room temperature for 30 minutes, radioactivity bound to the PPAR $\beta$  LBD-GST fusion protein/anti-GST/SPA antibody-binding bead complex is assessed using a Wallac MicroBeta plate reader. The  
20 potency of interaction of a compound with the PPAR $\beta$  LBD is determined as the concentration that inhibits 50% of the interaction between the PPAR $\beta$  LBD and the radiolabeled ligand ("IC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$ "). A similar procedure was used to asses the ability of a compound to interact with PPAR $\alpha$ LBD("IC<sub>50</sub> $\alpha$ ").

Compounds of the present invention exhibit a range of IC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$  values of less than  
30 about 9344 nM. Preferred compounds of the invention exhibit a range of IC<sub>50</sub> $\beta$  values of

less than about 2528 nM. See, for example, Compound 21-Example 21 which has an IC<sub>50</sub>β of 449 nM. More preferred compounds of the invention exhibit a range of IC<sub>50</sub>β values of less than about 43 nM. See, for example, Compound 31-Example 31 which has an IC<sub>50</sub>β of 6.8 nM. Compounds of the invention exhibit a range of IC<sub>50</sub>α of less than 5 about 15,000 nM. See, for example, Compound 27-Example 27 which has an IC<sub>50</sub>α of 3537 nM. Further, compounds of the invention exhibit a range of α/β (IC<sub>50</sub>α/IC<sub>50</sub>β) selectivity values of between about 0.3 and about 1,000.

## FORMULATIONS

10

The compounds of the present invention including those exemplified herein and all compounds of Formulas I through IV, hereafter referred to as “compound(s)” can be administered alone or in combination with one or more therapeutic agents. These include, 15 for example, other agents for treating, preventing or controlling dyslipidemia, non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, obesity, hyperglycemia, hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, atherosclerosis, hypertriglyceridemia, or hyperinsulinemia.

The compounds are thus well suited to formulation for convenient administration to mammals for the prevention and treatment of such disorders.

20 The following examples further illustrate typical formulations of the compounds provided by the invention.

### Formulation 1

Ingredient	Amount
compound	0.5 to 800 mg
sodium benzoate	5 mg
isotonic saline	1000 mL

25 The above ingredients are mixed and dissolved in the saline for IV administration to a patient.

**Formulation 2**

<b>Ingredient</b>	<b>Amount</b>
compound	0.5 to 800 mg
cellulose, microcrystalline	400 mg
stearic acid	5 mg
silicon dioxide	10 mg
sugar, confectionery	50 mg

The ingredients are blended to uniformity and pressed into a tablet that is well suited for oral administration to a patient.

5

**Formulation 3**

<b>Ingredient</b>	<b>Amount</b>
compound	0.5 to 800 mg
starch, dried	250 mg
magnesium stearate	10 mg

The ingredients are combined and milled to afford material suitable for filling hard gelatin capsules administered to a patient.

10

**Formulation 4**

<b>Ingredient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>% wt./total wt.)</b>
compound	1 to 50	
Polyethylene glycol 1000	32 to 75	
Polyethylene glycol 4000	16 to 25	

The ingredients are combined via melting and then poured into molds containing 2.5 g total weight.

15

While embodiments of the invention have been illustrated and described, it is not intended that these embodiments illustrate and describe all possible forms of the

invention. Rather, the words used in the specification are words of description rather than limitation, and it is understood that various changes may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.